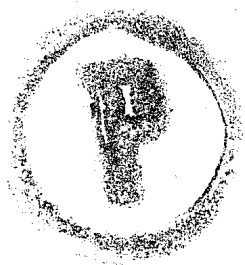


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**THE GERMAN
REPLACEMENT ARMY
(ERSATZHEER)**

APRIL 1944

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FOREWORD

This book brings together for the first time the great amount of detailed information on the character, functions, composition, locations, and affiliations of all types of replacement units which are comprised in the German Replacement Army. This material is presented in such a form as to enable the user, after familiarizing himself with the general arrangement of the book, to look up any desired information with a minimum of delay.

The book is intended for use of intelligence personnel who are already well acquainted with the organization and mode of employment of the German Field Army as described in the *Order of Battle of the German Army*, to which it is the sequel. Its primary purpose is to enable Order of Battle specialists, document exploiters, and interrogators to trace connections between field and replacement units which may prove invaluable in their work. The military careers of prisoners of war can be traced much more accurately, many unexplained allusions in documents can be clarified, and even the identity of units in the field can be established by a proper use of this material. In addition, the Army of Invasion is provided with all details on the disposition of replacement units in the German Zone of the Interior, and the Army of Occupation will be aided in supervising the demobilization of the German Army.

Apart from the descriptive sections at the beginning and the indexes at the end, the book gives the same basic material, namely, detailed data on all specific replacement units, from three different aspects: geographically according to Wehrkreise (section III), in numerical tables of the replacement units themselves showing their locations and their affiliated field units (section IV), and in numerical tables of the field units showing their affiliated replacement units (section V). It also contains descriptions of the replacement system

of the Air Force ground organizations (section VI) and of the *Waffen-SS* (section VII).

It is emphasized that with this book even very incomplete and inaccurate information can be checked and evaluated by a liberal use of the two indexes and a thorough understanding of the interconnections of the different types of tables.

Place names usually are given only in their German form; other forms for localities in annexed or occupied territory will be found in the Index of Cities and Towns (section IX).

This text should be used in conjunction with the following other publications of the Military Intelligence Division:

Order of Battle of the German Army (February 1944)

The Exploitation of German Documents

Military Headquarters and Installations in Germany (March 1944)

Staff Officers' Field Manual: Enemy Forces, Organization, Technical, and Logistical Data, FM-E 101-10 (1942)

German Military Abbreviations, Special Series, No. 12 (April 12, 1943)

All comments on this publication, as well as corrections of factual detail, should be transmitted promptly and may be addressed direct to the **Dissemination Unit, Military Intelligence Division, War Department, Washington 25, D. C.**

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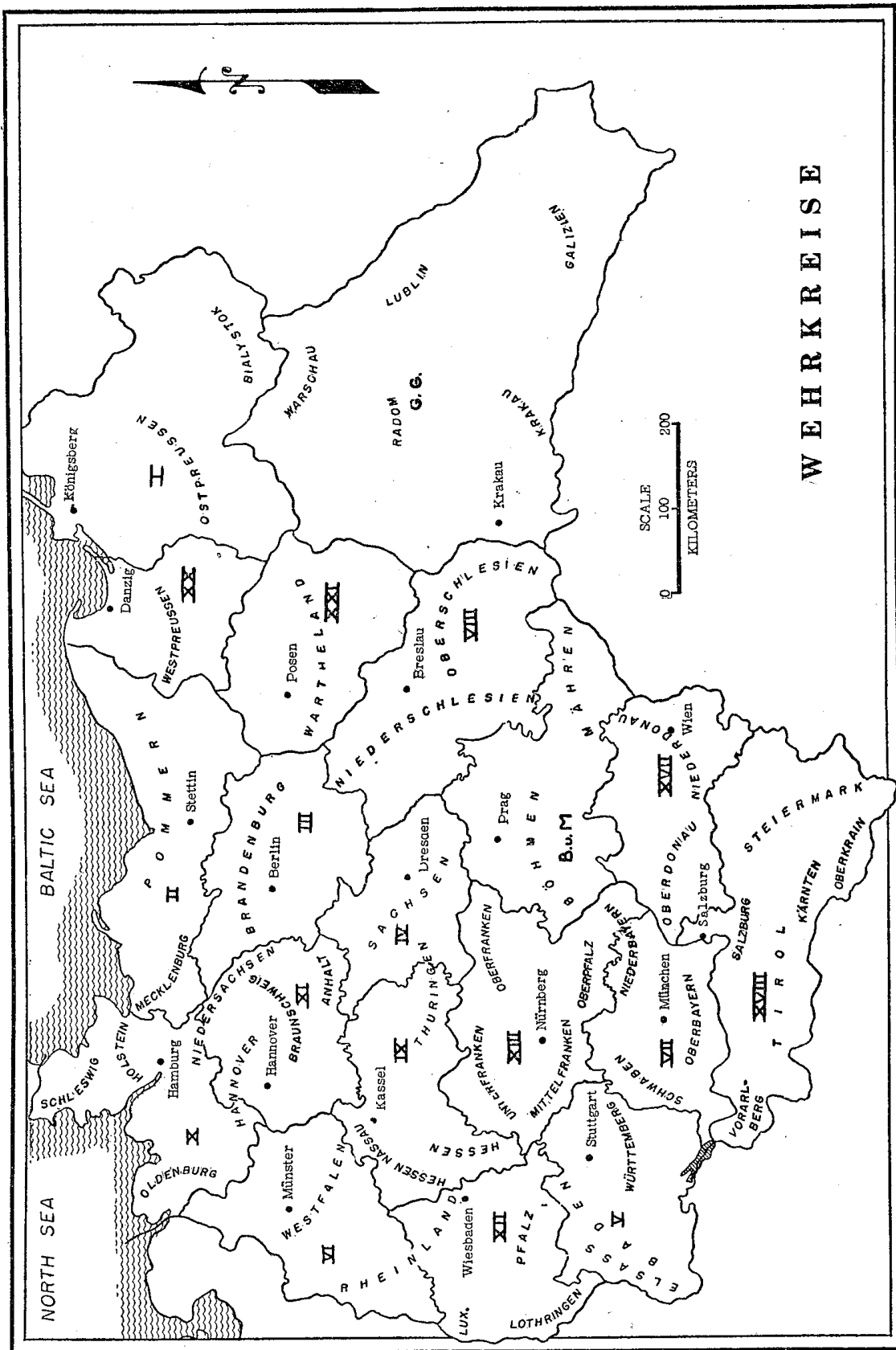


Figure 1.—Wehrkreise.

Section I. INTRODUCTION

1. Scope of the Book

All units and all personnel in the German Army are assigned either to the Field Army (*Feldheer*) or to the Replacement Army (*Ersatzheer*). The *Order of Battle of the German Army* dealt primarily with the functions, composition, and disposition of Field Army units; the present volume, which is designed to supplement it, describes all known replacement units and lists their affiliations with units of the Field Army. It also includes sections on the replacement system and the known replacement units and affiliations of the ground organizations of the German Air Force (antiaircraft artillery and ground combat troops) and of the *Waffen-SS*.

Wherever possible, duplication of material already contained in the *Order of Battle of the German Army* is avoided. Thus it is assumed that users of this text are familiar with the regional military organization of Germany into Wehrkreise, the system of conscription, and the general principles of the replacement training system as outlined in section II of the *Order of Battle* and with the organization and functions of field units as described in section III of that book. Additional technical information on these subjects is included here only where it is believed essential to a proper utilization of the mass of tabular data which constitutes the main part of the book.

The Replacement Army is commanded by Generaloberst Fritz FROMM as the specially designated Deputy of the Commander in Chief of the Army (formerly BRAUCHITSCH, now HITLER) to take charge of all matters not directly concerned with operations in the field. It includes not only replacement units but also all permanent military installations in Germany and all training units, a

large proportion of which are now located in occupied territory. The permanent military installations are dealt with in the publication *Military Headquarters and Installations in Germany*. The training units are largely under the control of reserve divisions and as potential combat units are beyond the scope of this book. Their numbering and nomenclature are identical with those of the corresponding replacement units with the substitution of *Ausbildungs-* or *Reserve-* for *Ersatz-*. Throughout this book the following nomenclature is employed:

"Replacement training unit" is used only for an *Ersatzereinheit* before it was split into its replacement and its training elements in the autumn of 1942.

"Training unit" is used for an *Ausbildungseinheit* of any kind after it was separated from its parent replacement training unit.

"Reserve unit" is used for a training unit which is part of a reserve division.


"Combined replacement and training unit" is used for a unit containing both replacement and training elements, which were either not involved in the general separation in 1942 or were subsequently reunited under a single control.

"Replacement unit" is used for an *Ersatzereinheit* in its present sense, including the replacement function of a combined replacement and training unit.

2. Chain of Command of the Replacement Army

The full title of FROMM is Chief of Army Equipment and Commander of the Replacement Army (*Chef der Heeresrüstung und Befehlshaber des Ersatzheeres*). This book is concerned only with the functions which come under the second part of his title; in addition he is responsible for the design, procurement, storage, and supply to the Field Army of all the items of equipment that it needs.

Figure 2 shows the chain of command in the Replacement Army, classified according to its three principal functions of conscription, training, and replacement. The following details are relevant to this chart:



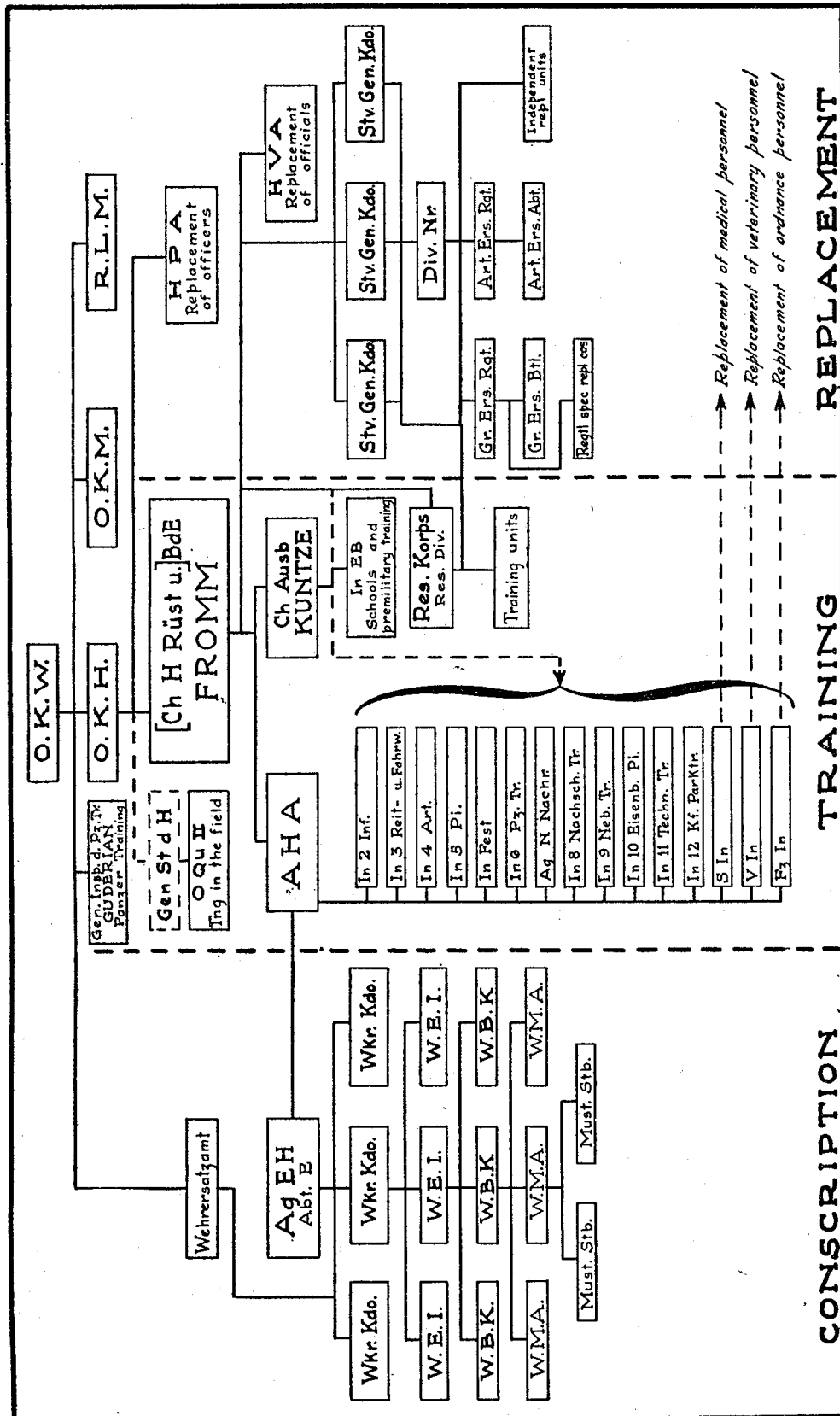


Figure 2.—Chain of Command of the Replacement Army.

a. Conscription.—This being a matter that concerns all three branches of the Armed Forces, it is supervised by the Military Replacement Office (*Wehrersatzamt*) of the Armed Forces High Command (*O.K.W.*). The interests of the Army are represented by the Replacement Branch (*Abteilung Ersatzwesen, Abt. E*) of the Group for Replacement and Army Matters (*Amtsgruppe Ersatz- und Heerwesen, Ag EH*) in the General Army Office (*Allgemeines Heeresamt, AHA*). Orders are issued through the various Wehrkreis headquarters (*Wehrkreiskommandos, Wkr. Kdo.*) to the Recruiting Area Inspectorates (*Wehrersatzinspektionen, W.E.I.*) and from there to the Recruiting Subarea Headquarters (*Wehrbezirkskommandos, W.B.K.*), which control the Reporting Offices (*Wehrmeldeämter, W.M.A.*) and set up from time to time in their districts the Muster- ing Staffs (*Musterungsstäbe, Must. Stb.*).

b. Training.—In the Replacement Army all training except that of the Panzer troops is supervised by General der Pioniere Walter KUNTZE as Chief of Training in the Replacement Army (*Chef des Ausbildungswesens im Ersatzheer, Ch Ausb.*). Training of the Panzer Troops is in the hands of Generaloberst Heinz GUDERIAN as Inspector General of Panzer Troops (*Generalinspekteur der Panzertruppe, Gen. Insp. d. Pz. Tr.*).

Subordinate to KUNTZE are the Inspectors of the various arms (*Waffeninspektoren*), who control the training of their respective arms through the Inspectorates of Arms (*Waffeninspektionen*), known collectively as the Arms Sections (*Waffenabteilungen*) of the General Army Office. The following are the names and authorized abbreviations of these inspectorates:

Inspektion der Infanterie, In 2 (Inspectorate of Infantry).

Inspektion des Reit- und Fahrwesens, In 3 (Inspectorate of Riding and Driving).

Inspektion der Artillerie, In 4 (Inspectorate of Artillery).

Inspektion der Pioniere, In 5 (Inspectorate of Engineers).

Inspektion der Festungen. In Fest (Inspectorate of Fortifications).

Inspektion der Panzertruppe, In 6 (Inspectorate of Panzer Troops).

Amtsgruppe Nachrichtenwesen, Ag N (Signal Group). Formerly called *Inspektion der Nachrichtentruppen, In 7* (Inspectorate of Signal Troops).

Inspektion der Nachschubtruppen, In 8 (Inspectorate of Supply Troops). Formerly called *Inspektion der Fahrtruppen*.

Inspektion der Nebeltruppen, In 9 (Inspectorate of Chemical Warfare Troops).

Inspektion der Eisenbahnpioniere, In 10 (Inspectorate of Railway Engineers).

Inspektion der Technischen Truppen, In 11 (Inspectorate of Technical Troops).

Inspektion der Kraftfahrparktruppen, In 12 (Inspectorate of Motor Maintenance Troops).

Sanitätsinspektion, S In (Medical Inspectorate).

Veterinärinspektion, V In (Veterinary Inspectorate).

Feldzeuginspektion, Fz In (Ordnance Inspectorate).

The former Inspectorate of Cadet Schools (*Inspektion der Kriegsschulen, In 1*) apparently suspended activities when the cadet schools themselves were superseded by special courses held at the special service schools (*Waffenschulen*) or by special wartime officer-candidate schools. These and all other Army schools are either under the direct control of KUNTZE or are supervised by the Inspector of Army Training and Education (*Inspekteur des Erziehungs- und Bildungswesens des Heeres, In EB*), who is responsible to him.

Training in the Replacement Army is conducted in training units, which take the form either of reserve units under reserve divisions and reserve corps subject to the direct command of FROMM (or for operational purposes of the field operational headquarters), or of combined replacement and training units (*Ersatz- und Ausbildungseinheiten*) in Germany, which are under the same command as replacement units.

Training in the Field Army is controlled by *Oberquartiermeister II—O Qu II*—in the Army General Staff (*Generalstab des Heeres, Gen St d H*), who naturally operates in close liaison with the training authorities in the Replacement Army.

c. Replacement.—Command of the replacement units as well as responsibility for meeting the replacement requests of the Field

Army is delegated by FROMM to the Wehrkreis headquarters in their capacity as Deputy Army Corps Commands (*Stellvertretende Generalkommandos*, *Stv.Gen.Kdo.*). Each of these now normally has one mobilization division (*Division Nummer . . .*, *Div.Nr. . .*) to control the replacement units, either directly, as in the case of independent units of the supporting arms and services, or through the infantry and artillery regimental staffs (*Grenadier-Ersatz-Regiment*, *Gr.Ers.Rgt.* and *Artillerie-Ersatz-Regiment*, *Art.Ers.Rgt.*). It is these replacement units that are the main subject of this book.

Replacements of officers and of Armed Forces officials (*Wehrmachtbeamte*) are the responsibility of the Army Personnel Office (*Heerespersonalamt*, *HPA*) and the Army Administration Office (*Heeresverwaltungsamt*, *HVA*), respectively.

3. Recent Development of the Replacement Army

The general functioning of replacement units and the manner of their affiliation with field units are explained in section II, paragraph 7, of the *Order of Battle of the German Army*, together with an outline of the stages in the development of the replacement training system since the beginning of the war. The following further details regarding the effects of the separation of replacement and training functions in 1942 will be of interest to the specialist studying the Replacement Army and will be of value in understanding the rest of this book:

a. At corps level.—To control the replacement functions (i.e., the dispatch of trained replacements to the Field Army) of reserve divisions a number of reserve corps (*Reservekorps*) and one or more reserve Panzer corps (*Reserve-Panzerkorps*) have been formed. Orders issued to Wehrkreis headquarters relating to these functions are now simultaneously addressed to the reserve corps, suggesting that they act as channels for replacement requisitions in the same way as Wehrkreis headquarters. On the other hand there is evidence that some of them, at least, control one or more defensive infantry divisions of the Field Army as well as their reserve divisions, and to this extent they seem to be similar to regular infantry corps or at least to corps commands (*Höhere Kommandos z.b. V.*).

[REDACTED]


b. At division level.—Every reserve division which has been identified so far was formerly a mobilization division. Each one controls a group of reserve regiments and supporting units from its own Wehrkreis, but the allotment of battalions within the regiment no longer necessarily follows the original pattern, which was based on the subordination of infantry regiments to the field division of the same number. Sometimes the battalions may even lose their original numbers altogether and be numbered simply I, II, and III. In other respects, also, the reserve divisions seem to have taken on the character of defensive field divisions to an increasing extent; several have gone into action on the eastern front, while others have firmly established themselves in coastal sectors in the west and are probably no longer concerned primarily with training.

In almost all cases there is now one, and only one, mobilization division in each Wehrkreis, except the four new Wehrkreise, to control the replacement units. New ones have been created either with numbers 300 or 310 higher than departed reserve divisions or by conversion of *z.b.V.* divisions.

c. At regiment level.—The separation of replacement and training functions occurred in the first instance at battalion level, since the former replacement training regiments were essentially only controlling staffs. A large proportion of these staffs became the staffs of reserve regiments in occupied territory and did not necessarily leave behind corresponding replacement regiment staffs. Thus there are now considerably fewer of the latter than previously, and they may control up to six or even more replacement battalions. The subordination of these battalions to infantry replacement regiments no longer necessarily corresponds to that of infantry regiments to field divisions of the same numbers. Several new infantry replacement regiments in the 500 series have been identified.

In view of these changes many of the identifications and affiliations of infantry replacement regiments listed in this book may no longer be valid.

d. At battalion level.—Under the original system each infantry replacement battalion normally contained a reception company (*Stammkompanie*), four training companies (*Ausbildungskompanien*)



of which the fourth was a machine-gun training company, and one or more convalescent and transfer companies (*Genesendenkompanien* and *Marschkompanien*). At the time of the split the training companies were withdrawn under the battalion staff and a new replacement battalion staff was created to control the remaining components having purely replacement functions. In some cases, apparently, the new training battalion established a *Marsch* company of its own as a pool for trained men awaiting transfer to the Field Army, while in other cases it seems to send them to the *Marsch* company of the replacement battalion.


Training units which were not physically separated from their corresponding replacement units were recombined with them, in order to save administrative personnel, under staffs known as *Grenadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungsbataillone* (combined infantry replacement and training battalions). These presumably have the same components as the original replacement training battalions.

The above remarks apply correspondingly to the arms other than infantry. In some of them all replacement and training units are now under combined staffs; this is true of the medical units, the armored reconnaissance units, and possibly other branches of the Panzer troops.

4. Movements of Replacement and Training Units

Despite the fact that the original replacement training units were intended to remain at the home stations of their corresponding field units, acting more or less as the rear echelons of the latter, for varying reasons there have been numerous shifts of units in the Replacement Army from one part of Germany to another and from Germany into occupied territory and back again. In section III these moves are described in detail for the units of each Wehrkreis; they are summarized here for the whole of Germany according to the motives which impelled them.

a. *To make room for attacking field forces.*—In the early years of the war, when Germany still had neighbors to be attacked, the replacement training units were withdrawn from the border regions several months before an offensive was to commence in order to free




the barrack space and other military facilities for the assembling field forces. After the area was no longer being used for this purpose the replacement training units generally returned to their home stations. The following instances of such evacuations occurred:

(1) In November 1939, the replacement training units from the areas bordering France and the Low Countries, namely Wehrkreise VI, XII, and V, were moved to the extreme east of Germany and took up their stations in newly acquired territory. Those from Wehrkreis VI went to Wehrkreis XX (mostly former Polish territory), those from Wehrkreis XII to Wehrkreis XXI (western Poland), and those from Wehrkreis V to the Protectorate (Czechoslovakia). All these units were returned to their original home stations in September 1940, after the French campaign was over.

(2) The replacement training units from Wehrkreis I were transferred to the Protectorate in September 1940, just as those from Wehrkreis V were leaving that area. This made room for the initial preparations in East Prussia for the campaign against the Soviet Union, and also for the temporary housing of racial Germans repatriated from the Baltic states. The units returned to their home stations in July 1941, after the offensive had been successfully launched.

(3) In February 1941, the replacement training units of Wehrkreis VIII, the Silesian assembly area for the Russian campaign, were transferred to Alsace and Lorraine, which at that time were in process of being unofficially annexed from France and in which Wehrkreise V and XII were taking over the military administration. The units remained in these areas until after the split in the latter part of 1942, when the replacement elements returned to their home stations and the training elements were formed into reserve divisions and moved on to other parts of France.

During the absence of the replacement training units from their home Wehrkreise in the above cases, special machinery had to be set up to handle both the replacement requisitions of the field forces and the flow of conscripts into the units. Normally replacement requisitions are transmitted from a field division to the responsible Deputy Army Corps Command (Wehrkreis headquarters), which




sends them on through the mobilization division to the appropriate replacement unit in the form of orders. When the units moved away from a Wehrkreis the mobilization division which went with them was designated as the direct recipient of requisitions from the field units, thus skipping the channel through the Deputy Army Corps Command. For all other administrative purposes as well as for the general supervision of their training the units came under the command of the Wehrkreis in which they were located. Contact with the home Wehrkreis was not, however, completely broken off.

New conscripts would normally be given orders by their local Reporting Office or Recruiting Subarea Headquarters to report to a replacement training unit not far from their home town. When the units moved far away it was necessary either to send these men individually or in small groups on long train journeys before induction or to assemble them in special collecting points known as *Wehrkreis-Ersatz-Depots*. The latter were also used for receiving men who returned from the field as convalescents or for any other reason, and these men sometimes then had to be transported to the appropriate replacement training units. After the units returned to the Wehrkreis these depots were dissolved.

b. To garrison newly acquired territories.—All the moves of replacement training units mentioned under *a*, above, and a number of other moves concurrent with or subsequent to them served the additional purpose of garrisoning the annexed or conquered areas adjacent to Germany proper and thus relieved the field forces of this responsibility. At the same time barracks and training grounds in Germany were freed for the formation of new units for the constantly expanding German Army, and the recruits were given training away from home and under conditions more like those in the field. The following moves of this category may be noted:

(1) The moves into the Protectorate, the annexed Polish areas, and Alsace and Lorraine which were described above.

(2) The move of replacement training units from Wehrkreis IV into the Protectorate (mostly Bohemia) and of units from Wehrkreis XVII into Moravia immediately following the departure of the



Wehrkreis I units from those areas. The Wehrkreis IV units left toward the end of 1942, and their place was taken by units from adjacent Wehrkreis XIII.

(3) In Wehrkreise XX and XXI, the annexed Polish areas, the units from Wehrkreise VI and XII which were mentioned under *a* above were replaced after September 1940 by units from adjacent Wehrkreise II and III, respectively.

(4) After the departure of the Wehrkreis VIII units from Alsace and Lorraine in 1942, these areas were occupied by units from the original parts of Wehrkreise V and XII, into which they were being incorporated.

(5) Wehrkreis XVIII units moved into Oberkrain (part of Slovenia) in 1942.


(6) Wehrkreis I units moved into the newly annexed areas of Zichenau and Bialystok in 1942.

(7) Wehrkreis XII units were stationed in Luxemburg in 1942.

(8) Between 1940 and 1942 a few replacement training units went into areas which were not annexed but which were close to the German frontiers and far from the theaters of operations. Thus certain units from Wehrkreis X moved into Denmark, from Wehrkreise VI and X into the Netherlands, from Wehrkreis VI into Belgium, and from Wehrkreis XII into eastern France.

It will be noted that all the above moves, except those whose primary motive was the evacuation of assembly areas, were by units in border Wehrkreise into adjacent occupied or annexed territory immediately across the border. The movements thus amounted to a slight extension of the German zone of the interior in all directions.

After the separation of replacement and training functions in the autumn of 1942 the replacement elements of the units which were still in newly acquired territories in some cases returned to their home stations to resume their normal induction and replacement functions, and the training elements were usually incorporated into reserve divisions and moved farther afield. In other cases both elements remained in the new areas and took the form of combined replacement and training units (*Ersatz- und Ausbildungseinheiten*); their present status is discussed under *d*, below.



c. To garrison occupied countries with troops on a combat footing.—The disadvantages of the removal of replacement training units from their home stations, from the administrative point of view, were almost sufficient to outweigh the advantages. For this reason, as has been shown, none of the moves except those dictated by military necessity were very far from home, and the practice of garrisoning more distant occupied territories with replacement training units was never resorted to under the old system. It was probably these considerations as much as it was the growing shortage of manpower which caused the German authorities, in September 1942, to break up all the basic replacement training units into their two elements, even though in some cases they were reunited under a new name. This made it possible for the replacement units to occupy their home stations and for the training units to enjoy complete freedom of movement. The latter were thenceforth used in large numbers to occupy different parts of France, the Low Countries, Denmark, Poland, Lithuania, the Soviet Union, Croatia, and northern Italy in the form of reserve divisions. Combined training could thus be carried on under more realistic conditions, and numerous fully organized field divisions were released for service on active fighting fronts.

The general direction of the movements of reserve divisions into occupied countries since 1942 is shown in figure 3. It will be noted that in virtually all cases the units from a given Wehrkreis went to the country nearest them, so that few of the lines of movement cross. This map will be useful in determining the approximate areas in which men from any section of Germany are now being trained.

d. To continue the garrisoning of newly acquired areas.—It has been shown that since 1942 some of the replacement training units stationed in areas immediately beyond the old borders of Germany have remained there as combined replacement and training units. In addition, other units of this category have been sent into these and similar areas. In Wehrkreise XX and XXI training units (*Ausbildungseinheiten*) from Wehrkreis II have appeared, and the corresponding replacement units are back at their home stations. All these units just beyond the old frontiers seem to come under the

~~REPLACEMENT~~

control of mobilization division staffs, or possibly in some cases special administrative division staffs (*Div.Kdo.z.b.V.*), which are usually additional to the mobilization division (*Div.Nr.*) controlling replacement units back in the Wehrkreis proper. As they have not achieved the status of reserve divisions, these division staffs constitute a sort of intermediate stage between the system of replacement training in the Wehrkreis as originally conceived and the system of replacement in the Wehrkreis and training in occupied countries as now practiced in the majority of cases. This is in all respects parallel to the intermediate system which was applied in these same areas just before the split, and it appears to have the same advantages from the point of view of manpower and training efficiency and the same disadvantages in administrative complications.

Both the present locations and the home stations of these units are shown in the lists in sections III and IV of this book.

In the following instances belonging to this category, most of which are continuations of the moves described under *b*, above, it should be remembered that the character of this development is not yet entirely clear and that any of the units involved may turn into either reserve divisions or some new form of organization.

(1) Training units from Wehrkreis II are stationed in adjacent Wehrkreise XX and XXI under Div.Nr. 152. It is possible that this has turned into a reserve division and has been transferred, with its units, to White Russia.

(2) Combined replacement and training units from Wehrkreis XIII are stationed in adjacent Bohemia under Div.Nr. 193.

(3) Combined replacement and training units from Wehrkreis XVII are stationed in adjacent Moravia, possibly under Div.Nr. 177.

(4) Combined replacement and training units from Wehrkreis V are stationed in Alsace, and some may have moved into the adjacent Epinal area of eastern France, possibly under a newly formed Div.Nr. 465.

(5) Combined replacement and training units from Wehrkreis XII are stationed in Lorraine, and some may have moved into the

adjacent Nancy area of eastern France, possibly under a newly formed Div.Nr. 462.


(6) Combined replacement and training units, or possibly only training units, from Wehrkreis VI are believed to be in adjacent eastern Belgium.

5. Record-Keeping in the Replacement Army

The apparently cumbersome system of replacement affiliations can be operated efficiently only because of the traditional German fondness for complete and carefully kept records. By an elaborate array of forms and documents which are drawn up by the recruiting authorities, replacement units, training units, field units, and hospitals and which are passed back and forth among them under complicated and frequently changing regulations, it is intended that each agency concerned shall at all times have all necessary data concerning every soldier in its care and shall do its full share in keeping such records up to date and in properly advising the other agencies involved.¹ The following brief review of the record-keeping duties of each such agency may help users of this book in interpreting documents, prisoners' statements, and the like.

a. Recruiting authorities.—The competent recruiting authority (*Wehrersatzdienststelle*) is usually the reporting office (*Wehrmeldeamt*) near the man's place of residence. For officers and for Armed Forces officials, and in some localities for enlisted men as well, it is the Recruiting Subarea Headquarters (*Wehrbezirkskommando*), and for Germans residing abroad it is the *Wehrbezirkskommando Ausland* in Berlin, operating through the German consulates. At the man's first registration this authority issues to him his permanent military passport (*Wehrpass*), which remains in his possession while he is a civilian and in that of his unit while he is a soldier and follows him from unit to unit throughout his military career. It also starts a folder on the man known as the permanent military record book (*Wehrstammbuch*), to which are added all the papers subsequently sent in by all the units in which he serves. When the recruiting

¹ For further details concerning these forms and documents, see *The Exploitation of German Documents*, issued by the Military Intelligence Division in February 1944.




authority orders the man to report to a replacement unit it sends this document to that unit for temporary keeping, and it must also send it to the replacement unit at any future time that the man is serving there.

b. *Replacement unit.*—When the recruit arrives at his replacement unit he turns in his *Wehrpass* and receives in exchange a *Soldbuch* (literally a paybook, actually a service record and identification book). This document remains in his possession until his discharge from the Army, and every unit in which he serves is entered in it as in the *Wehrpass*, though in somewhat different form. The *Wehrpass* simply records the units in chronological sequence, with dates; the *Soldbuch* is an evidence of his responsible replacement unit at any given time, so that any reserve hospital, for example, which receives him will know what replacement unit to contact for instructions on his release. Both documents also contain much information regarding such matters as promotions, campaigns, decorations, hospitalization, equipment issue, pay, and personal data.

When a replacement unit sends a man to a training unit or to a field unit, it must enter itself in section B of page 4 of his *Soldbuch*, which is headed "sent to the Field Army by . . ." (*zum Feldheer abgesandt von . . .*). It must then forward the *Wehrpass* to the receiving unit and after a lapse of 3 weeks return the *Wehrstammbuch* to the recruiting authority.

c. *Training unit.*—The training unit, on arrival of the soldier, enters itself in his *Wehrpass* and in section C of page 4 of his *Soldbuch*, headed "Field Unit" (*Feldtruppenteil*), despite the fact that it does not belong to the Field Army. It starts a roster sheet (*Kriegsstammrollenblatt*) for him, on which are entered all significant facts concerning his previous career and his service in the present unit, including his training record. This roster sheet is sent back to the recruiting authority as soon as the man leaves the unit.

d. *Field unit.*—The field unit must go through the same operations as the training unit regarding the *Wehrpass*, *Soldbuch*, and *Kriegsstammrollenblatt*. In addition it must inform the replacement unit from which the man was sent of his joining the unit in the field. Under the original plan this was not necessary, as the replacement




unit knew automatically which field unit a man would join since it gave him orders to report to a field unit to which it was affiliated. At an early stage in the campaign in Russia, however, it was often found necessary to divert replacements to field units other than those for which they were intended, and since then the affiliation *from the replacement unit to the field unit* has been violated still more frequently in view of the interpolation of the training unit and in view of the increasingly stringent manpower shortage. The affiliation *from the field unit to the replacement unit*, on the other hand, is still carefully maintained and must always be entered by the field unit in section D of page 4 of the *Soldbuch*, headed "Present responsible replacement unit" (*jetzt zuständiger Ersatztruppenteil*). Oddly enough, this responsible replacement unit is *not* notified of the arrival of the man, and if it is different from the unit which sent him it will have no knowledge of his existence unless and until he is actually transferred back to it by the field unit or by a hospital.

e. Hospital.—When a man enters a hospital it must naturally notify his unit, giving particulars of his wound or illness and an estimate of the time required for cure. After 8 weeks—until recently 4 weeks—in a field hospital (half as long for Air Force personnel), or immediately upon acceptance into a reserve hospital, the institution notifies the responsible replacement unit, as seen from the *Soldbuch*, that the man is now a member of its convalescent company. It will then receive instructions from the replacement unit whether to give the man a furlough or to send him straight back to the convalescent company upon his discharge. The replacement unit requests the field unit to drop him from its rolls and to forward the *Wehrpass* and other documents.

Among the papers not mentioned in the above account but which are similarly forwarded from unit to unit under various circumstances are the health record (*Gesundheitsbuch*), the suitability card (*Verwendungskarte*, known as *V-Karte*), the roster kept by the replacement unit (*Truppenstammrolle*), and the record of punishment (*Strafbuchauszug*).

In view of the intricate nature of the rules and regulations governing the transfer of documents relating to personnel it is not surpris-



ing that German officers and noncommissioned officers frequently make mistakes in carrying them out.

6. Sample Case Histories of German Soldiers

The two case histories which are outlined below and illustrated in the accompanying maps and charts show how German soldiers are transferred to various units and places under different circum-

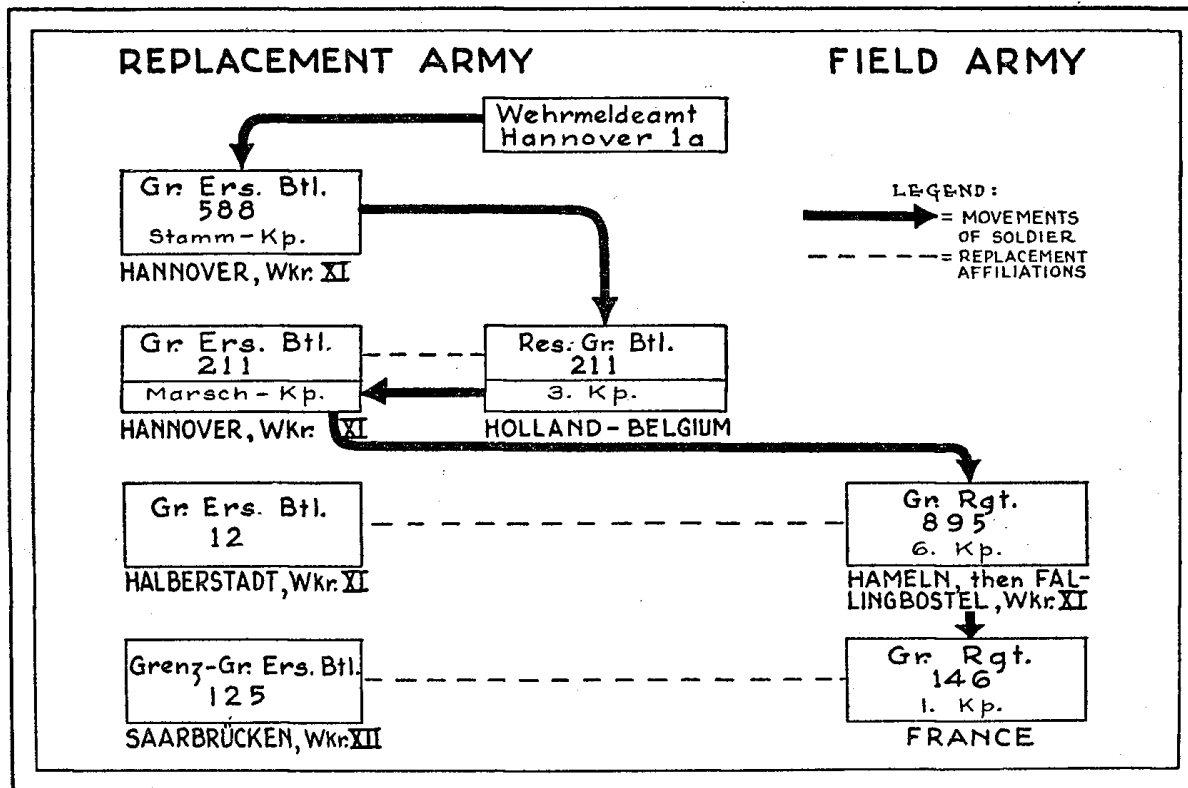


Figure 4.—Sample case history A: transfers.

stances and exemplify the system of replacement affiliations, the role of hospitals and furloughs, and other aspects of the relations between the Replacement and Field Armies. They also throw some light on the formation of new units during 1943 and the effect of Stalingrad on the mobilization program. Both are actual cases which are considered typical of the method of processing soldiers of their respective categories. It is recommended that they be studied carefully and that all units and affiliations be looked up in the appropriate tables.

a. *Sample Case History A.*—This is the brief career of a recent recruit who was inducted in January 1943 until he joined his regular field unit. (See figs. 4 and 5.) Born 1925 near Hannover. Called to the colors in January 1943 by his local reporting office (*Wehrmeldeamt*) and ordered to report to the reception company (*Stammkompanie*) of Infantry Replacement Battalion 588 at Hannover, Wkr. XI. Sent with nine other recruits immediately after induction

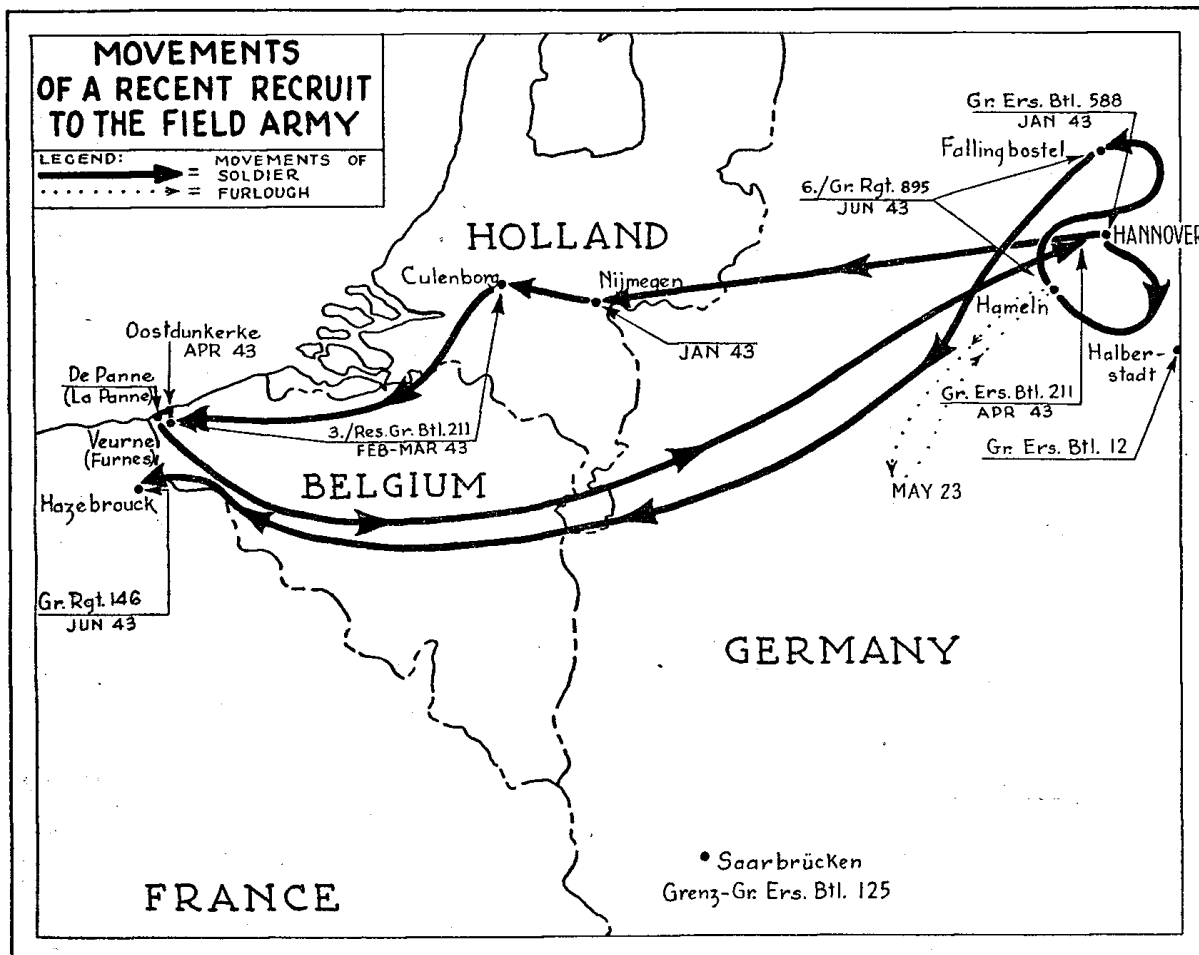



Figure 5.—Sample case history A: movements.

to a camp at Nijmegen, Netherlands, for a brief period of basic training. Transferred shortly thereafter to Culenborg, Netherlands, to join a training unit from his Wehrkreis, the 211th Reserve Infantry Battalion in the 171st Reserve Division. Its responsible replacement unit was the 211th Infantry Replacement Battalion at Hannover,

and it was to the transfer company (*Marschkompanie*) of this unit that he returned on completing his training. Sent to Hameln in June to join the 895th Infantry Regiment, a component of the 265th Infantry Division which was in process of being set up by Wehrkreis XI. He was now for the first time in the Field Army, although located in his home Wehrkreis. An existing Wehrkreis XI replacement unit, the 12th Infantry Replacement Battalion at Halberstadt, had been made responsible for the new regiment, and he would have been sent to this battalion if for any reason he had been transferred back to the Replacement Army.

The mobilization of the 265th Infantry Division was temporarily interrupted when it was decided to reconstitute the divisions destroyed at Stalingrad at the expense of the new units which had been planned. In the general redistribution of manpower inside Germany which followed on this decision it happened that this man's company (6.Gr.Rgt. 895) was sent to the Fallingbostal training area on the Lüneburger Heide (still in Wehrkreis XI) and there split up. He and some others were sent to the Channel coast to join the 146th Regiment of the 65th Infantry Division, a unit which had begun forming in 1942 but which had apparently had to give up some personnel to help re-form the Stalingrad divisions.

His present replacement unit as a member of the 146th Infantry Regiment is the 125th Frontier Infantry Replacement Battalion at Saarbrücken in Wehrkreis XII. This battalion was originally the replacement training unit left behind by the 125th Frontier Infantry Regiment, which operated as an independent GHQ unit until after the Balkan campaign in 1941. In Greece the 125th Regiment became a part of the 164th Division, which then belonged to Wehrkreis IV, and later it was motorized and sent to Africa; all this involved changes in its replacement affiliation. This meant that the 125th Infantry Replacement Battalion was relieved of its responsibility for the regiment whose number it bears, and it was eventually designated as the responsible replacement unit for a number of new units set up by Wehrkreis XII, including several fortress battalions and the 145th and 146th Infantry Regiments of the newly formed 65th Infantry Division. Thus this is the unit to which this



soldier will return if he is transferred back to the Replacement Army because of illness, wounds, demobilization, or any other circumstances.

b. Sample Case History B.—This case concerns a seasoned soldier who was wounded in the Soviet Union and returned to the Replacement Army for rehabilitation before being reassigned to a field unit.

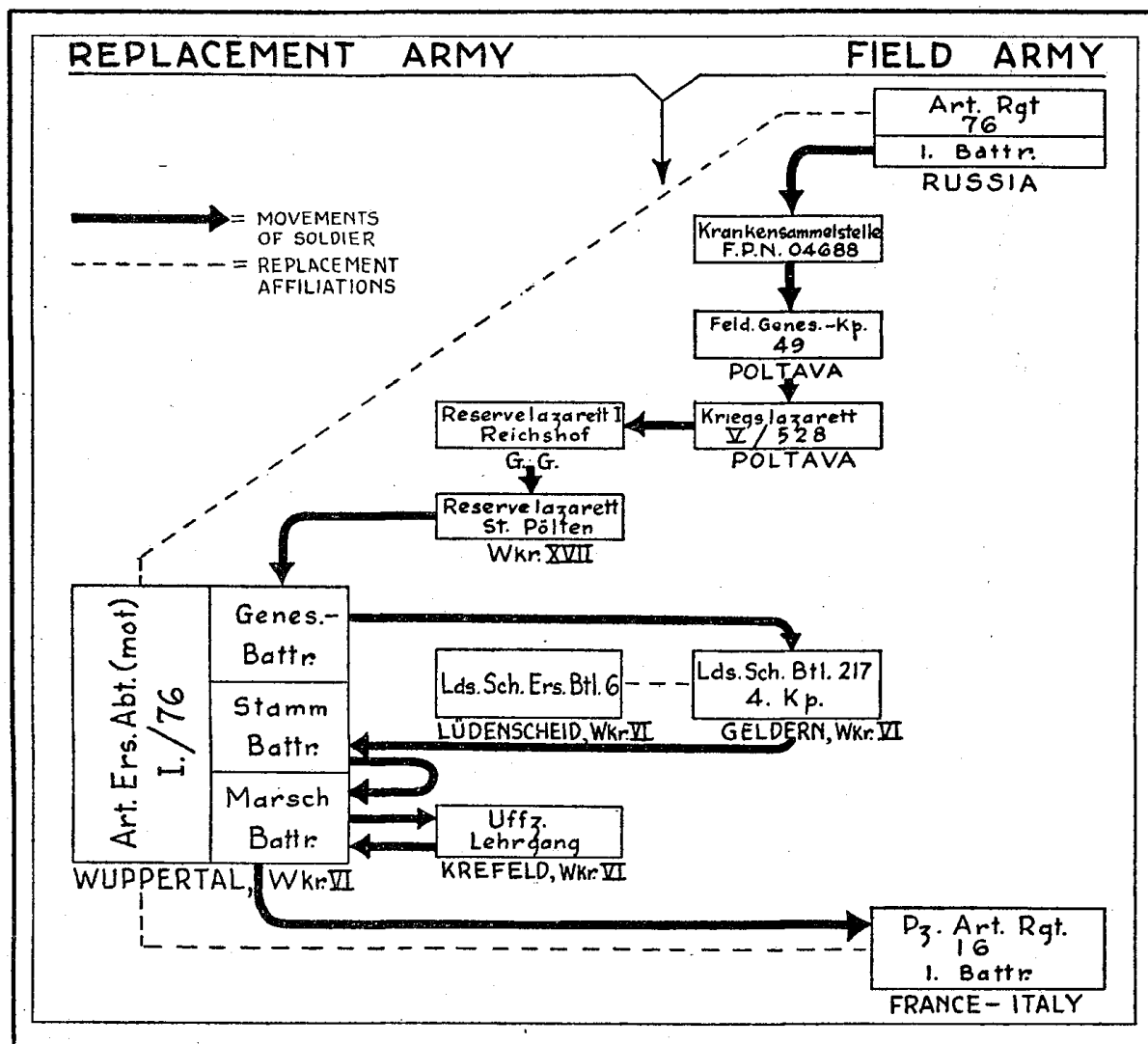


Figure 6.—Sample case history B: transfers.

(See figs. 6 and 7.) Born in 1917 and inducted in November 1938. Took part in the Polish and Western campaigns, and in 1941 went to the Soviet Union with the 1st Battery of the 76th Motorized Artillery Regiment in the 6th Panzer Division. The responsible re-

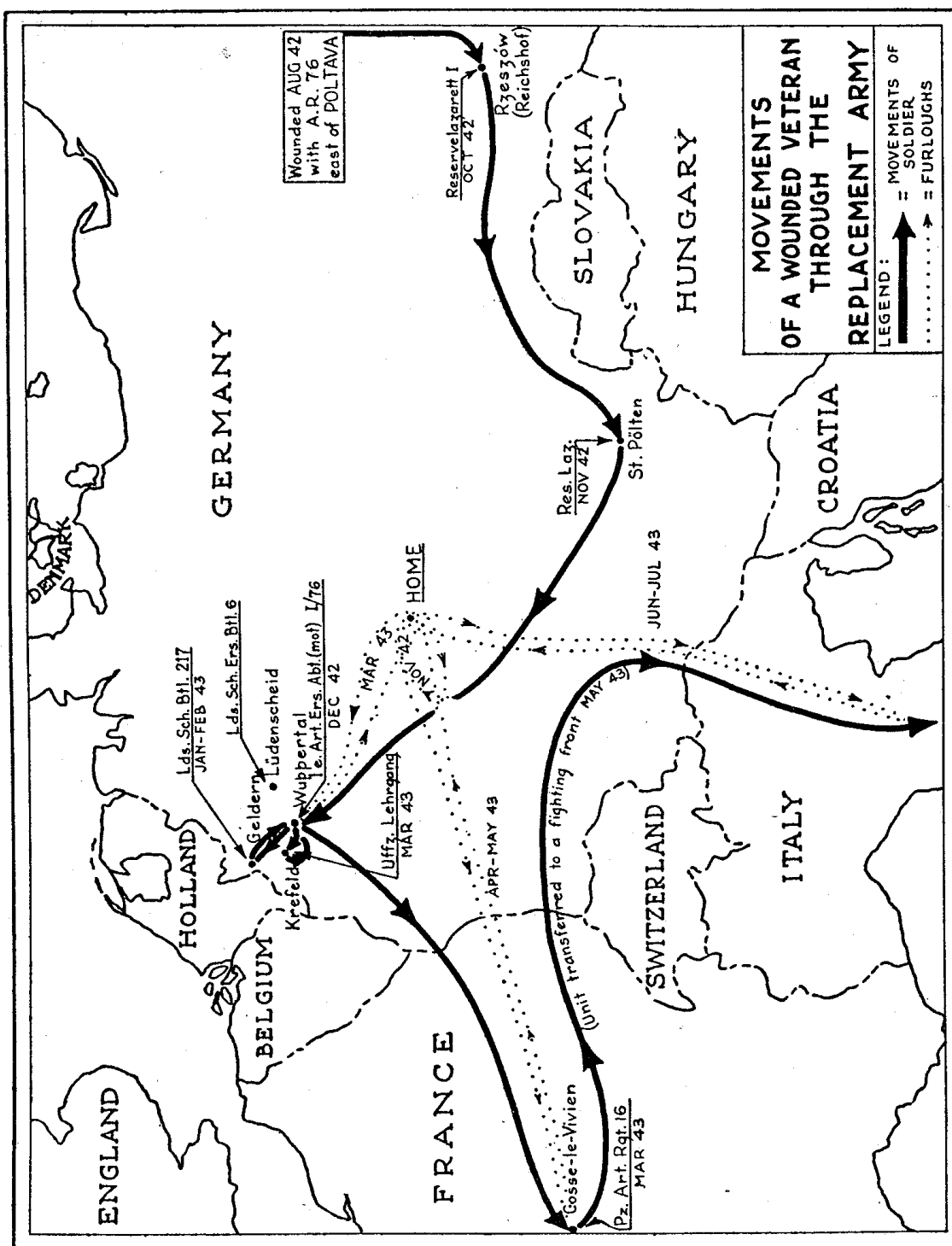




Figure 7.—Sample case history B: movements.

placement unit for the light battalions of this regiment was the Motorized Artillery Replacement Battalion I./76 at Wuppertal in Wehrkreis VI. The man was wounded near Poltava on 17 August 1943; his wound was not serious, but he subsequently contracted jaundice and after passing through several hospitals in the field was sent back first to a reserve hospital in Poland and then to another near Vienna in Wehrkreis XVII. The latter promptly notified his responsible replacement unit at Wuppertal of his arrival, which automatically placed him on the rolls of its convalescent battery, entirely regardless of whether he himself had ever been in or near Wuppertal and at a time when he definitely was not there. There is nothing unusual in this procedure; convalescent units were originally designed to provide a course of training to restore the combat efficiency of wounded men, but because of the manpower shortage they now serve principally as record offices for men in reserve hospitals or on convalescent leave. As soon as the men are fit for limited service the convalescent unit often directs that they be sent to a local-defense (*Landesschützen*) unit where use can be made of them as guards for prisoners of war or vulnerable points in Germany until they are again fit for combat duty. That is what happened to this soldier. After a convalescent furlough he reported in person to the *Genesendenbatterie* of his replacement unit at Wuppertal and was shortly thereafter assigned to *Landesschützen* Battalion 217 at Geldern in Wehrkreis VI. Here his responsible replacement unit was the Wehrkreis VI *Landesschützen* Replacement Battalion 6 at Lüdenscheid. As soon as he was considered fully fit he went back to his previous responsible replacement unit, Motorized Artillery Replacement Battalion I./76, joining first the reception battery (*Stammatterie*) and then the transfer battery (*Marschbatterie*). Again no lost motion was permitted; while nominally on the rolls of the latter unit he was actually attending an NCO course at Krefeld and then on a short emergency furlough before his return to the Field Army.

Motorized Artillery Replacement Battalion I./76 was responsible for other motorized artillery units from Wehrkreis VI as well as the one which bore its number. Thus the soldier was not returned to



his previous unit in the Soviet Union but was sent to France to join the 16th Motorized Artillery Regiment, which was being re-formed there after being destroyed, along with the rest of the 16th Panzer Division, at Stalingrad. His present responsible replacement unit as a member of this regiment is still the Motorized Artillery Replacement Battalion I./76, which in consequence of air raids has meanwhile moved from the large industrial center of Wuppertal to the smaller town of Detmold. Presumably because of his impaired health the soldier received another long furlough while his unit was in France and yet another after it arrived in northern Italy.



Section II. TYPES OF REPLACEMENT UNITS

7. Introduction

a. General.—This section consists of a catalog of all the principal types of replacement and training units in the German ground forces of the status of regiments and below, with particulars of their German designations, their numbering, their organization or subordination, and the manner of their affiliation with field units. They are arranged according to arms and services (*Waffengattungen*), subdivided into regular units (replacement and training units which are affiliated in the normal manner with various types of field units) and special units (replacement and training units created for special purposes), followed by a description of the schools connected with the arm in question. General remarks concerning the character and scope of each *Waffengattung*, its nomenclature, and its numbering system are included under each heading so far as they are pertinent.

b. Types and organization of replacement and training units.—There are three general types of replacement and training units, whose development and function within the German replacement and training system has been described in section I. These are—


- (1) Replacement units (*Ersatzeinheiten*).
- (2) Training units (*Ausbildungseinheiten*), which are called reserve units (*Reserveeinheiten*) when they are controlled by reserve divisions.
- (3) Combined replacement and training units (*Ersatz- und Ausbildungseinheiten*).

Both the replacement and the combined replacement and training units have the function of providing personnel replacements for their affiliated field units. The combined replacement and training units have the additional function of training recruits, whereas the replacement units are relieved of that function by the separate training units bearing the same numbers.

The functions of these three types of replacement and training units are clearly defined and are uniform throughout the Replacement Army, so that the fact that the name of a unit includes the words *Ersatz-*, *Ausbildungs-*, *Reserve-*, or *Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-* indicates at once how it fits into the entire replacement training system. It is therefore considered sufficient in the following catalog to describe in detail the numbering and mission of the replacement unit only and to give only the German designations and proper translations of its corresponding training units; the latter are listed to the extent that they are believed to exist but not where there is reason to assume that the type is never used.

Even if a given type of unit is known to exist only in the form of combined replacement and training battalions it is listed and described here as a replacement unit, since all such combined units function in the replacement capacity as well as for training. This is the case, for example, with the medical replacement units, which exist only as combined medical replacement and training battalions, and with the armored reconnaissance replacement units, which are all in the form of combined armored reconnaissance replacement and training battalions.

In general it has not been necessary to describe in detail the organization of the individual types of replacement and training units mentioned in this section. All replacement units are alike in that they consist of a staff and one or more recruit, convalescent, and *Marsch* components. The components of the training units correspond in each instance to those of their related field units. Thus the fourth company of an infantry training battalion will be a machine-gun training company, the reconnaissance training battalion will have cyclist training troops (*Radfahr-Ausbildungs-Schwadronen*) and cavalry training troops (*Reiter-Ausbildungs-Schwadronen*), and the armored reconnaissance training battalion includes training companies for armored-car crews (*Panzerspäh-Ausbildungs-Kompanien*), for armored reconnaissance personnel (*Panzeraufklärungs-Ausbildungs-Kompanien*), and for motorcycle and scout car crews respectively (*Panzeraufklärungs-Ausbildungs-Kompanien* (*Krad*) or (*Volkswagen*)). Units of regiment status



will usually be commanded by a colonel, units of battalion status by a captain, and units of company size by a first lieutenant. The organization of individual units is mentioned only where special information is of significance.

c. Types of schools.—In the training system of the German Army the following four types of schools may be distinguished; they are listed below under their respective arms in this sequence.

(1) *Schools for training in particular arms or services* (*Waffenschulen*).—The *Waffenschulen*, of which there are usually one or more for each arm, are comparable to the U.S. special service schools and have the function of developing the technical and tactical doctrines of their respective arms and conducting courses for personnel of those arms as required. The principal *Waffenschulen* have demonstration units (*Lehrtruppen*) permanently attached to them.


The *Waffenschulen* are subordinated to the Chief of Training (*Chef des Ausbildungswesens im Ersatzheer*).

The members of the school staffs wear the uniforms of their respective arms with the letter \mathfrak{S} on the shoulder straps. The demonstration units wear the letter \mathfrak{L} instead.

(2) *Schools for officer training.*—In the peacetime Army, the five military schools (*Kriegsschulen*) at München, Hannover, Dresden, Potsdam, and Wiener-Neustadt took care of the training of officer candidates. The wartime Army formed, to take their place, eight schools for infantry officer candidates (*Schulen für Offizier-Anwärter der Infanterie*), one school for artillery officer candidates (*Artillerieschule III*), and courses for officer candidates at the *Waffenschulen* (*Offizier-Anwärter-Lehrgänge an den Waffenschulen*) for officer candidates of the other arms. In April 1943, the designation of the schools and courses was changed from *Offizier-Anwärter* to *Fahnenjunker* and *Artillerieschule III*, for example, became *Schule für Fahnenjunker der Artillerie*.

These schools are controlled by the Army Inspector of Training and Education (*Inspekteur des Erziehungs- und Bildungswesens des Heeres*).

(3) *Schools for NCO training.*—The training of noncommissioned officers takes place in the Army noncommissioned-officer schools



(*Heeres-Unteroffizierschulen*). These schools also conduct courses for officer applicants (*Offizier-Bewerber-Lehrgänge*). The noncommissioned-officer school usually consists of a headquarters and four companies or batteries.

The personnel of the noncommissioned-officer schools wear the letters *US* on their shoulder straps.

These schools are likewise controlled by the Army Inspector of Training and Education (*Inspekteur des Erziehungs- und Bildungswesens des Heeres*).


(4) *Schools for special training*.—There are various schools for specialists which are usually connected with a particular arm but often train specialist personnel for other arms as well. Their main function is the training of personnel and instructors of the specialist careers (*Sonderlaufbahnen*), mostly concerned with the maintenance of various types of installations and equipment and with the care of men and animals. They are dealt with below under the various arms under which they most properly belong.

Armed Forces specialist schools (*Wehrmachtfachschulen*) have the purpose of preparing professional soldiers for careers in government service after their discharge from the Armed Forces. In wartime the only soldiers receiving such training are those who are no longer fit for any kind of military duty. They are therefore not listed in this book.

8. Infantry (*Infanterie*)

a. General description of the arm.—This arm includes the infantry regiments and reconnaissance units of the infantry divisions (*Infanteriedivisionen*), light divisions (*Jägerdivisionen*), and mountain divisions (*Gebirgsdivisionen*) and various types of GHQ units, such as *Fla* battalions, together with their corresponding replacement and training units. The development of the infantry arm is supervised by the Inspectorate of Infantry in the General Army Office (*Inspektion der Infanterie*—AHA/In 2).

The distinguishing color of the infantry in general is white, of the light and mountain infantry light green, and of reconnaissance units (which originally were cavalry) golden yellow.




b. *Nomenclature*.—The designation of the regular infantry regiments was changed in October 1942 from *Infanterieregiment* to *Grenadierregiment*. Some 10 regiments having traditional associations with *Füsilier* regiments of the old Imperial Army were granted the honorary designation of *Füsilierregiment*. Infantry replacement and training battalions may therefore be found with the corresponding names of *Grenadier-Ersatz-* (or *-Ausbildungs-*) *-Bataillon* and *Füsilier-Ersatz-* (or *-Ausbildungs-*) *-Bataillon*.

The replacement and training battalions for the light infantry regiment (*Jägerregiment*) and mountain infantry regiment (*Gebirgsjägerregiment*) are designated *Jäger-Ersatz-* (or *-Ausbildungs-*) *-Bataillon* and *Gebirgsjäger-Ersatz-* (or *-Ausbildungs-*) *-Bataillon* respectively.

The term *Infanterie* is still employed to describe the infantry arm as such and as a generic term to cover two or more of the above designations; thus, the T/O which applies to *Grenadierregiment*, *Füsilierregiment*, and *Jägerregiment* is entitled *Infanterieregiment*.

Moreover, the designation *Infanterie* is still used correctly to express the connection of a unit with the infantry arm. Thus, the specialist units which are component parts of infantry regiments are called infantry antitank company (*Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Kompanie*), infantry mounted platoon (*Infanterie-Reiterzug*), infantry howitzer company (*Infanterie-Geschütz-Kompanie*), infantry signal platoon and section (*Infanterie-Nachrichtenzug und -staffel*), and infantry engineer platoon (*Infanterie-Pionierzug*).

c. *Regular units*.—(1) *Grenadier-Ersatz-Regiment (Gr.Ers.Rgt.)*—infantry replacement regiment.—Consists of a staff which controls a number of infantry replacement battalions. This number was originally three but may now be as many as six or even more. At the same time the infantry replacement regiment controls four replacement companies for the regimental specialist sub-units, namely one each for the infantry howitzer companies, the antitank companies, the signal subunits, and the engineer platoons. To these may be added a fifth replacement company for the infantry mounted platoons found in the regimental headquarters companies.



Most of these replacement regiments bear the numbers of active divisions (1 to 36, 44, 45, 46, and 50) or of the three following waves of divisions formed in 1939 (52 to 98, 205 to 246, and 251 to 269), since they were originally thought of as the rear echelons of these divisions and were located at their home stations. Some of those in Austria, however, took the numbers of the regiments of the original divisions of Wehrkreis XVII (the 44th, 45th, and 262d Infantry Divisions) because, owing to the absence of trained manpower there in 1939, there were no second- and third-wave divisions from Austria. A few of the infantry replacement regiments have been renumbered in the course of the war.

The reorganization of the Replacement Army which began toward the end of 1942 has resulted in the formation of a number of new infantry replacement regiments in the 500 series.

Because of successive changes in subordination the replacement battalions controlled by an infantry replacement regiment no longer necessarily correspond in their numbering to the regiments of the field division whose number it bears.

The infantry replacement regiment is not now itself responsible for supplying replacements to any field unit. Its principal function since 1942 has been to serve as an administrative echelon between the actual replacement units subordinate to it (infantry replacement battalions and infantry specialist replacement companies) and the mobilization division (*Div.Nr.* . . .).


Designations of corresponding training units:

Grenadier-Ausbildungs-Regiment (Gr.Ausb.Rgt.)—infantry training regiment.

Reserve-Grenadier-Regiment (Res.Gr.Rgt.)—reserve infantry regiment.

Grenadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (Gr.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.)—combined infantry replacement and training regiment.

(2) *Jäger-Ersatz-Regiment (Jäg.Ers.Rgt.)*—light infantry replacement regiment.—It is possible but not certain that this designation is used for the 5th, 8th, and 28th Infantry Replacement Regiments, whose numbers correspond to those of the three divisions which were converted into light divisions in the winter of 1940–41.



Designations of corresponding training units:

Jäger-Ausbildungs-Regiment (*Jäg.Ausb.Rgt.*) — light infantry training regiment.

Reserve-Jäger-Regiment (*Res.Jäg.Rgt.*)—reserve light infantry regiment.

Jäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (*Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.*)—combined light infantry replacement and training regiment.

(3) *Gebirgsjäger-Ersatz-Regiment* (*Geb.Jäg.Ers.Rgt.*) — mountain infantry replacement regiment.—Similar in organization and functions to the infantry replacement regiment, but usually controlling only two mountain infantry replacement battalions and four mountain infantry specialist replacement companies. The regiments are numbered 1 (corresponding to the 1st Mountain Division from Wehrkreis VII) and 136 to 139 (corresponding to the original regiments of the 2d and 3d Mountain Divisions from Wehrkreis XVIII).

Designations of corresponding training units:


Gebirgsjäger-Ausbildungs-Regiment (*Geb.Jäg.Ausb.Rgt.*)—mountain infantry training regiment.

Reserve-Gebirgsjäger-Regiment (*Res.Geb.Jäg.Rgt.*)—reserve mountain infantry regiment.

Gebirgsjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (*Geb.Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.*)—combined mountain infantry replacement and training regiment.

(4) *Grenadier-Ersatz-Bataillon* (*Gr.Ers.Btl.*)—infantry replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for one or more infantry regiments from its Wehrkreis. It may also be the responsible replacement unit for the headquarters companies of subordinate administrative headquarters in occupied territories (*Feldkommandanturen*), administrative units of prisoner of war camps, railway station headquarters, and fortress battalions. Certain infantry replacement battalions have been designated as replacement units for special types of field units. Thus, Infantry Replacement Battalion 203 in Berlin-Spandau (Wkr. III) is the replacement unit for the specialists of the fuel and lubricant testing units (*Betriebsstoffuntersuchungstrupps*); Infantry Replacement Battalion 352 in Luxembourg (Wkr. XII) is the replacement unit for the cadre personnel of the Special Field Penal Battalion (*Feldsonderbataillon*).

An infantry replacement battalion may have administrative responsibilities, such as pay and issue of equipment, for the personnel



of one or more of the regimental specialist replacement companies which are subordinated to the same replacement regiment, if they happen to be stationed near it.

The infantry replacement battalion usually bears the number of a regiment of one of the active, reservist, *Landwehr*, or *Ergänzungs* divisions (first four waves) from its Wehrkreis. In Austria (Wehrkreis XVII) there are two replacement battalions carrying the number of each of the original regiments (130 to 135 and 462, 482, and 486), preceded by the Roman numerals I and II.

The infantry replacement battalion is normally, but not always, the responsible replacement unit for the field regiment whose number it bears and often for one or more additional regiments.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Grenadier-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Gr.Ausb.Btl.*)—infantry training battalion.

Reserve-Grenadier-Bataillon (*Res.Gr.Btl.*)—reserve infantry battalion.

Grenadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Gr.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.*)—infantry replacement and training battalion.

(5) *Grenz-Grenadier-Ersatz-Bataillon* or *Grenz-Infanterie-Ersatz-Bataillon* (*Grz.Gr.Ers.Btl.* or *Grz.Inf.Ers.Btl.*)—frontier infantry replacement battalion.—Units of this type have been identified in Wehrkreise III and XII, numbered in the 120 series. They were the replacement battalions left behind by the former frontier infantry regiments stationed near the Polish and French frontiers when the latter departed for the field. It is believed that these battalions now function as ordinary infantry replacement battalions, although one or two of them retain the designation *Grenz-Grenadier-Ersatz-Bataillon*.

(6) *Jäger-Ersatz-Bataillon* (*Jäg.Ers.Btl.*)—light infantry replacement battalion.—Similar in character and functions to the infantry replacement battalion. These are the responsible replacement units for the light infantry regiments of the light divisions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Jäger-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Jäg.Ausb.Btl.*)—light infantry training battalion.

Reserve-Jäger-Bataillon (*Res.Jäg.Btl.*)—reserve light infantry battalion.

Jäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.*)—combined light infantry replacement and training battalion.

(7) *Gebirgsjäger-Ersatz-Bataillon* (*Geb.Jäg.Ers.Btl.*) — mountain infantry replacement battalion.—Similar in character and functions to the infantry replacement battalion. These are the responsible replacement units for the mountain infantry regiments in the mountain divisions. They bear the numbers of the active mountain infantry regiments; in all but two cases there are two for each such regiment, with the Roman numerals I and II.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Gebirgsjäger-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Geb.Jäg.Ausb.Btl.*)—mountain infantry training battalion.


Reserve-Gebirgsjäger-Bataillon (*Res.Geb.Jäg.Btl.*)—reserve mountain infantry battalion.

Gebirgsjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (*Geb.Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.*)—combined mountain infantry replacement and training battalion.

(8) *Aufklärungs-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*Aufkl. Ers. Abt.*)—reconnaissance replacement battalion.—The reconnaissance replacement battalions have their origin in the old cavalry, and until April 1943 they were called either *Kavallerie-Ersatz-Abteilung* (cavalry replacement battalion) or *Radfahr-Ersatz-Abteilung* (cyclist replacement battalion). They are usually commanded by a *Rittmeister* (captain). Their components of company status are called *Schwadron* (troop).

The reconnaissance replacement battalions are the responsible replacement units for the reconnaissance battalions of infantry, light, and mountain divisions and the reconnaissance companies of mobile battalions. However, the antitank, howitzer, and engineer platoons of the heavy weapons troop in the reconnaissance battalion are not affiliated with the reconnaissance replacement battalion, but with the most conveniently located divisional antitank and engineer replacement battalions and regimental howitzer replacement company, respectively.

In some cases the responsible replacement units for infantry reconnaissance battalions and mobile battalions are of company size only. They are described under subparagraphs (22) and (23), below.



Reconnaissance replacement battalions 3 and 5 to 23 carry the numbers of the former cavalry regiments from which they were originally formed. Reconnaissance replacement units with higher numbers carry the numbers of the field units which they originally served, which are in most cases at the same time the numbers of field divisions formed in 1939.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Aufklärungs-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Aufkl.Ausb.Abt.)—reconnaissance training battalion.

Reserve-Aufklärungs-Abteilung (Res.Aufkl.Abt.)—reserve reconnaissance battalion.

Aufklärungs-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Aufkl.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—combined reconnaissance replacement and training battalion.

(9) *Maschinengewehr-Ersatz-Bataillon (MG.Ers.Btl.)*—machine-gun replacement battalion.—There are only very few of these units identified. Most of them are probably motorized and should have the addition (*mot*) to their names.

The machine-gun replacement battalions are the responsible replacement units for independent machine-gun battalions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Maschinengewehr-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (MG.Ausb.Btl.)—machine-gun training battalion.

Maschinengewehr-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (MG.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)—combined machine-gun replacement and training battalion.

(10) *Fliegerabwehr-Ersatz-Bataillon (Fla-Ers.Btl.)*—antiaircraft machine-gun replacement battalion.—These units have been identified in the numerical series 22 to 66; with the exception of numbers 47 (Wkr. XIII), 52 (Wkr. X), and 66 (Wkr. XII) the last digit of the number has been found to indicate the Wehrkreis of each unit. Most of the units are motorized, in which case their German designation has the addition (*mot*).

The *Fla* replacement battalions are the responsible replacement units for *Fla* battalions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Fla-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Fla-Ausb.Btl.)—antiaircraft training battalion.

Fla-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Fla-Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)—antiaircraft replacement and training battalion.

(11) *Schwere Granatwerfer-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*s.Gr.W.Ers.Abt.*)—heavy mortar replacement battalion.—This unit (one without number in Metz, Wkr. XII, identified) is the responsible replacement unit for the heavy (120-mm) mortar battalions.

Designation of corresponding training unit:

Schwere Granatwerfer-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*s.Gr.W.Ausb.Abt.*)—heavy mortar training battalion.

(12) *Feld-Ersatz-Bataillon* (*Feld-Ers.Btl.*)—field replacement battalion.—The field replacement battalion is not a replacement unit in the proper sense of the term. It is a pool of trained replacements for divisional units of various arms in the field. It may be organic to a division, but its personnel may also go to several divisions in a given area.

(13) *Infanterie-Geschütz-Ersatz-Kompanie* (*Inf.Gesch.Ers.Kp.*)—infantry howitzer replacement company.—This unit sometimes appears as the 13th company of an infantry replacement regiment, and in any case bears the number of such a regiment, by which it is controlled. It is normally the responsible replacement unit for the 13th (infantry howitzer) companies of the infantry regiments belonging to the division of the same number, and usually those of one or more additional divisions from the same Wehrkreis. It also serves the infantry howitzer platoon of the heavy-weapons troop in the reconnaissance battalion (see subparagraph (8), above).


Designations of corresponding training units:

Infanterie-Geschütz-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Inf.Gesch.Ausb.Kp.*) — infantry howitzer training company.

Reserve-Infanterie-Geschütz-Kompanie (*Res.Inf.Gesch.Kp.*)—reserve infantry howitzer company.

Infanterie-Geschütz-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Inf.Gesch.Ers.u. Ausb.Kp.*)—combined infantry howitzer replacement and training company.

(14) *Gebirgsjäger-Infanterie-Geschütz-Ersatz-Kompanie* (*Geb.Jäg.-Inf.Gesch.Ers.Kp.*)—mountain infantry howitzer replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the mountain infantry howitzer platoon in the heavy-weapons company of the mountain infantry battalion and in the heavy-weapons troop of the mountain



reconnaissance battalion. Controlled by a mountain infantry replacement regiment, whose number it carries.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Gebirgsjäger-Infanterie-Geschütz-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Geb.Jäg.Inf.Gesch. Ausb.Kp.)—mountain infantry howitzer training company.

Reserve-Gebirgsjäger-Infanterie-Geschütz-Kompanie (Res.Geb.Jäg.Inf.Gesch. Kp.)—reserve mountain infantry howitzer company.

Gebirgsjäger-Infanterie-Geschütz-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Geb. Jäg.Inf.Gesch.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.)—combined mountain infantry howitzer replacement and training company.

(15) *Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ersatz-Kompanie* (Inf.Pz.Jäg.Ers.Kp.)—infantry antitank replacement company.—This unit sometimes appears as the 14th company of an infantry replacement regiment and in any case bears the number of such a regiment, by which it is controlled. It is normally the responsible replacement unit for the 14th (antitank) companies of the infantry regiments belonging to the division of the same number and usually those of one or more additional divisions from the same Wehrkreis.

Until 1940 these units were called *Panzerabwehr* instead of *Panzerjäger*.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Inf.Pz.Jäg.Ausb.Kp.)—infantry antitank training company.

Reserve-Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Kompanie (Res.Inf.Pz.Jäg.Kp.)—reserve infantry antitank company.

Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Inf.Pz. Jäg. Ers. u.Ausb.Kp.)—combined infantry antitank replacement and training company.

(16) *Gebirgs-Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ersatz-Kompanie* (Geb.Inf.Pz. Jäg.Ers.Kp.)—mountain infantry antitank replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the antitank company of the mountain infantry regiment and for the antitank platoon in the heavy-weapons company of the mountain infantry battalion. Controlled by a mountain infantry replacement regiment, whose number it carries.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Gebirgs-Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Geb.Inf.Pz.Jäg.Ausb.Kp.*)—mountain infantry antitank training company.

Reserve-Gebirgs-Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Kompanie (*Res.Geb.Inf.Pz.Jäg.Kp.*)—reserve mountain infantry antitank company.

Gebirgs-Infanterie-Panzerjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Geb.Inf.Pz.Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.*)—combined mountain infantry antitank replacement and training company.

(17) *Infanterie-Nachrichten-Ersatz-Kompanie* (*Inf.Nachr.Ers.Kp.*)—infantry signal replacement company.—This unit occasionally appears as the 15th company of an infantry replacement regiment and in any case bears the number of such a regiment, by which it is controlled. It is normally the responsible replacement unit for the signal platoons in the regimental headquarters companies and the signal sections in battalion headquarters of the infantry regiments belonging to the division of the same number and usually those of one or more additional divisions from the same Wehrkreis. It may also be the responsible replacement unit for the signal section of an administrative subarea headquarters (*Feldkommandantur*).

Designations of corresponding training units:

Infanterie-Nachrichten-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Inf.Nachr.Ausb.Kp.*) — infantry signal training company.

Infanterie-Nachrichten-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Inf.Nachr.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.*)—combined infantry signal replacement and training company.

(18) *Gebirgsjäger-Nachrichten-Ersatz-Kompanie* (*Geb.Jäg.Nachr.Ers.Kp.*)—mountain infantry signal replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the signal platoon in the headquarters company of the mountain infantry regiment and for the signal section in the headquarters of the mountain infantry battalion. Controlled by a mountain infantry replacement regiment, whose number it carries.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Gebirgsjäger-Nachrichten-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Geb.Jäg.Nachr.Ausb.Kp.*)—mountain infantry signal training company.

Gebirgsjäger-Nachrichten-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (*Geb.Jäg.Nachr.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.*)—combined mountain infantry signal replacement and training company.

(19) *Infanterie-Pionier-Ersatz-Kompanie (Inf.Pi.Ers.Kp.)* — infantry engineer replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the engineer platoons in the headquarters companies of the infantry regiments of one or more divisions from its Wehrkreis, normally including the division of the same number as the infantry replacement regiment by which it is controlled.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Infanterie-Pionier-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Inf.Pi.Ausb.Kp.)—infantry engineer training company.

Infanterie-Pionier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Inf.Pi.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.)—combined infantry engineer replacement and training company.

(20) *Gebirgsjäger-Pionier-Ersatz-Kompanie (Geb.Jäg.Pi.Ers.Kp.)* —mountain infantry engineer replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the engineer platoon in the headquarters company of the mountain infantry regiment and in the heavy-weapons company of the mountain infantry battalion. Controlled by a mountain infantry replacement regiment, whose number it carries.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Gebirgsjäger-Pionier-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Geb.Jäg.Pi.Ausb.Kp.)—mountain infantry engineer training company.

Gebirgsjäger-Pionier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungskompanie (Geb.Jäg.Pi.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.)—combined mountain infantry engineer replacement and training company.

(21) *Ersatz-Kompanie für Infanterie-Reiterzug (Ers.Kp.f.Inf.Reit.Zg.)*—replacement company for infantry mounted platoons.—It is believed that in each Wehrkreis an infantry replacement regiment corresponding to one of the *active* infantry divisions originally controlled a replacement company for infantry mounted platoons and that these companies still exist under their original numbers even if the division or the replacement regiment has since been converted. These companies are the responsible replacement units for the infantry mounted platoons in the regimental headquarters companies of all the infantry divisions of their respective Wehrkreise.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Infanterie-Reiterzug (Ausb.Kp.f.Inf.Reit.Zg.)—training company for infantry mounted platoons.

Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Infanterie-Reiterzug (Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.f. Inf.Reit.Zg.)—combined replacement and training company for infantry mounted platoons.

(22) *Aufklärungs-Ersatz-Schwadron (Aufkl. Ers. Schwd.)*—reconnaissance replacement troop.—Most of the reconnaissance replacement units are of battalion size and are described in subparagraph (8), above. Some of them however, especially in the numerical series 67 to 268, are only of company status. In most of these cases, the infantry divisions bearing the corresponding numbers have mobile battalions combining their reconnaissance and antitank elements and therefore require less facilities for replacement of reconnaissance personnel. The reconnaissance replacement troops are the responsible replacement units for the reconnaissance troops in the mobile battalions (or reconnaissance battalions) of these divisions and usually of one or more additional infantry divisions from the same Wehrkreis.

Designation of corresponding training unit:

Aufklärungs-Ausbildungs-Schwadron (Aufkl.Ausb.Schw.) — reconnaissance training troop.

(23) *Aufklärungs-Ersatz-Kompanie (Aufkl.Ers.Kp.)*—reconnaissance replacement company.—Two of these units, numbered 67 and 68, have been identified, although their designation does not correspond to the usual German practice. They furnish cyclist replacements for reconnaissance battalions of mountain divisions from Wehrkreis XVIII.

d. *Special units.*—(1) *Jäger-Ersatz-Regiment 1* (Special Light Infantry Replacement Regiment 1).—This regiment, stationed at Arys (Wkr. I), presumably controls *Jäger-Ersatz-Bataillone A and B* (Raiding Replacement Battalions A and B) at Arys, which are replacement units for the *Jäger-Bataillone*, formerly called *Jagdkommandos* (raiding detachments), used for special raiding or mopping-up purposes on the Eastern Front.

(2) *Infanterie-Ersatz-Bataillon 500 z.b.V.* (Special Infantry Replacement Battalion 500).—This battalion, last located at Skierniewice (Wkr. G.G.), receives soldiers guilty of misconduct and sends

them to the *Bewährungs-Bataillone* (rehabilitation battalions), for which it is the responsible replacement unit.

(3) *Sonderabteilungen des Ersatzheeres* (special battalions of the Replacement Army).—These units receive men undergoing their basic training in the Replacement Army who, by their conduct and character, endanger discipline and are therefore a burden to regular training units. After remaining in the special penal battalions for not longer than 9 months, such men are sent either to their regular replacement units or, if they are still considered incorrigible, to the *Feldsonderbataillon* (Special Field Penal Battalion).

There are four special penal battalions of the Replacement Army:

No. I in the Stablack training area (Wkr. I), for Wkr. I, XX, XXI.

No. III in the Wandern training area (Wkr. III), for Wkr. II, III, IV, VIII, XI.

No. IX in the Schwarzenborn training area (Wkr. IX), for Wkr. V, VI, IX, X, XII.

No. XIII in the Grafenwöhr training area (Wkr. XIII), for Wkr. VII, XIII, XVII, XVIII, Böhmen und Mähren.

(4) *Ersatz-Bataillon 999* (Replacement Battalion 999).—Formerly located at the Heuberg training area (Wkr. V) and serving as the responsible replacement unit first for *Afrika-Division 999* and later for the various "999" fortress battalions, which were formed largely from political offenders and ex-convicts. A unit with a similar designation and function presumably now exists at the Baumholder training area (Wkr. XII) to comprise whatever infantry replacement elements are under the control of the newly created *Ersatzbrigade 999*.

(5) *Infanterie-Schallmess-Lehr- und -Ersatz-Kompanie 17* (Inf. Schallm. Lehr- u. Ers.K-p.17) (Infantry Sound-Ranging Demonstration and Replacement Company 17).—This unit was established at the Grafenwöhr training area (Wkr. XIII) in November 1942. It serves as the responsible replacement unit for all infantry sound-ranging detachments of the Field Army. A field division requests the personnel needed from the headquarters of Wehrkreis XIII, whereupon the replacement unit transfers trained men to the field unit.

(6) *Gebirgs-Fliegerabwehr-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (mot) 700 (Geb.Fla-Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.(mot)700)* (Mountain Motorized Anti-aircraft Machine-Gun Combined Replacement and Training Company 700).—Located at Bad Hall, Tirol (Wkr. XVIII). Its purpose is to retrain *Fla* personnel for operations in mountainous country, especially in the handling of 20-mm pack anti-aircraft machine guns, and to organize them into units to be incorporated as third (anti-aircraft) companies into divisional anti-tank battalions. It probably also serves as the responsible replacement unit for such personnel.

e. Schools.—(1) *Special service schools (Waffenschulen).*—(a) *Infanterie-Schule* (Infantry School).—Located at Döberitz-Elsggrund (Wkr. III). Includes the *Infanterie-Schiess-Schule* (Infantry Gunnery School) and conducts special courses for the ordinary infantry company and the machine-gun company.

Infanterie-Lehr-Regiment 900 (Infantry Demonstration Regiment 900) is usually stationed at the Infantry School and is employed to demonstrate tactics and perform experiments with new infantry weapons. Until 1943 it was controlled by *Infanterie-Lehr-Brigade 900* along with *Panzergrenadier-Lehr-Regiment 901*, but the latter is believed to have been moved to the School for Panzer Troops at Krampnitz (see par. 9 *e*) when the armored infantry was incorporated into the Panzer troops.

(b) *Gebirgsjäger-Schule* (Mountain Infantry School).—This school is organized as follows:

Kommandostab (headquarters staff), Mittenwald (Wkr. VII).


Lehrgruppe I, Gebirgs-Schiess-Schule (Instruction Group I, Mountain Gunnery School), Camp Luttensee near Mittenwald (Wkr. VII).

Lehrgruppe II, Führung und Gefecht (Instruction Group II, Leadership and Combat), Mittenwald (Wkr. VII).

Lehrgruppe III, Heeres-Hochgebirgs-Schule (Instruction Group III, Army Alpine School), Fulpmes (Wkr. XVIII).

The *Gebirgsjäger-Lehr-Bataillon* (Mountain Infantry Demonstration Battalion) is attached to the Mountain Infantry School and is usually stationed at Mittenwald (Wkr. VII).

(c) *Aufklärungs- und Kavallerie-Schule* (Reconnaissance and Cavalry School).—Located at Bromberg (Wkr. XX).



The *Aufklärungs- und Kavallerie-Lehr-Abteilung* (Reconnaissance and Cavalry Demonstration Battalion) is attached to this school.

(d) *Fliegerabwehr-Schule der Infanterie* (Infantry Antiaircraft Machine-Gun School).—Located at Greifswald (Wkr. II). Until April 1943 this school was called *Truppen-Luftschutz-Schule*, and it was originally located at Stettin-Altdamm. It conducts courses for enlisted men belonging to infantry antiaircraft machine-gun units, training them as leaders of gun sections, signal sections, and motor-vehicle sections and as gunnery instructors for the Field Army.

(2) *Schools for officer training*.—The following eight schools for infantry officer candidates exist at present:

Schule I für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Dresden (Wkr. IV).

Schule II für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Wiener-Neustadt (Wkr. XVII) at the seat of the former *Kriegsschule*, the old *Theresianische Militär-Akademie* (Maria Theresa Military Academy).

Schule III für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Potsdam (Wkr. III). This school also takes care of the officer candidates of the propaganda troops.

Schule IV für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Ohrdruf (Wkr. IX).

Schule V für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Posen (Wkr. XXI). Until September 1942 this school was located at Döberitz-Elsgrund (Wkr. III).

Schule VI für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Metz (Wkr. XII).

Schule VII für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Milowitz (Wkr. B.u.M.).

Schule VIII für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie at Hannover (Wkr. XI).

(3) *Schools for NCO training*.—(a) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schulen der Infanterie* (Army Infantry NCO Schools).—In the following list only the NCO schools at Jauer and Eutin have been definitely identified as infantry, but the others are believed to belong to the infantry arm also:

Wkr. I: Ortelsburg.

Wkr. II: Arnswalde; Treptow/Rega.

Wkr. III: Lübben im Spreewald; Potsdam-Eiche; Regenwurmlager über Meseritz.

Wkr. V: Sigmaringen.

Wkr. VI: Düren.

Wkr. VIII: Frankenstein; Jauer.

Wkr. IX: Aschaffenburg; Jena.

Wkr. X: Eutin.

Wkr. XII: Bergzabern; Biebrich; Saarlautern.

Wkr. XX: Marienwerder; Mewe/Weichsel.

Wkr. XXI: Hohensalza; Kosten; Leslau.

(b) *Feld-Unteroffizier-Schule der Infanterie* (Field Infantry NCO School).—Located at the Süd (south) training area, Deba (Wkr. G.G.). The purpose of this school is the training and education of active noncommissioned officers for the “conservation of the high standards of training of the noncommissioned officer corps.” Trainees must be in excellent physical condition for the strenuous combat training of this school. It also conducts courses for the retraining of noncommissioned officers of other arms for duty with the infantry.


(c) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schulen für Gebirgsjäger* (Army Mountain Infantry NCO Schools).—These have been identified at Türmitz (Wkr. IV) and Wörgl in Tirol (Wkr. XVIII).

(4) *School for special training*.—The *Heeres-Luftschutz-Schule* (Army Air Raid Protection School) at Potsdam (Wkr. III) is subordinated to the Chief of Training in the Replacement Army. It conducts courses for officers and noncommissioned officers of all arms, who subsequently return to their units as instructors in air defense or as air-raid-protection specialists.

9. Panzer Troops (*Panzertruppen*)

a. *General description of the arm*.—In April 1943 the arm known as *Schnelle Truppen* (mobile troops) was dissolved and the arm *Panzertruppen* was established instead. The *General-Inspekteur der Panzertruppen* (Inspector General of Panzer Troops) was appointed to supervise the organization, training, and development of the arm.

The new arm consists of the following types of field units and their corresponding replacement and training units: *Panzerregiment* (tank regiment) and *Panzerabteilung* (tank battalion), *Panzerjägerabteilung* (antitank battalion) and other *Panzerjäger-Einheiten* (antitank units) with the exception of the infantry antitank units, the anti-tank elements of the *Schnelle Abteilung* (mobile battalion), *Panzer-aufklärungsabteilung* (armored reconnaissance battalion), and *Eisenbahnpanzerzug* (armored train), all of them with pink as their distinguishing color; *Panzergrenadierregiment* (armored infantry regiment) with grass green as its distinguishing color; and *Grenadierregiment (mot)* (motorized infantry regiment), originally belonging



to the infantry, with white as its distinguishing color. (The tank regiment, armored infantry regiments, and armored reconnaissance battalion of the 24th Panzer Division, formed from the former 1st Cavalry Division, have golden yellow as their distinguishing color.)

b. Nomenclature.—The designations of the replacement and training units generally correspond to those of the field units.


It should be noted that not all units whose names begin with "Panzer" belong to the Panzer arm, since this word is automatically prefixed to all elements of the Panzer division. Thus the *Panzerartillerieregiment* belongs to the artillery, the *Panzerpionierbataillon* to the engineers, and the *Panzernachrichtenabteilung* to the signal troops.

Confusion also arises from the inconsistent use of the term *Panzergrenadier*. It was first introduced in August 1942 for the armored infantry regiments of the Panzer division, which had previously been called *Schützenregimenter*. In June 1943 the motorized division, previously called *Infanteriedivision (mot)*, was renamed *Panzergrenadierdivision*. Since then the motorized infantry regiments of certain of these divisions have sometimes been referred to as *Panzergrenadierregimenter*, although they have not been reorganized as armored infantry and their normal designation would be *Grenadierregiment (mot)*.

The *Panzergrenadierdivision "Grossdeutschland"* is actually a Panzer division in its organization, and its regiments, known as *Grenadierregiment "Grossdeutschland"* and *Füsilierregiment "Grossdeutschland"*, are actually armored infantry regiments.

c. Regular units.—(1) *Panzergrenadier-Ersatz-Regiment (Pz.Gr. Ers.Rgt.)*—armored infantry replacement regiment.—Consists of a staff which controls from one to three armored infantry replacement battalions; four replacement companies for the regimental specialist subunits, namely one each for the infantry howitzer, anti-tank, signal, and engineer subunits; and possibly also one Panzer reconnaissance replacement battalion.

The armored infantry replacement regiment normally carries the auxiliary unit number of an active division which is now a Panzer division. Nos. 2, 4, 13, and 27 are the numbers of active infantry



divisions which were converted into the 12th, 14th, 13th, and 17th Panzer Divisions in 1940; No. 57 is the auxiliary number of the peacetime 1st Light Division, now the 6th Panzer Division; and Nos. 81 to 85 are the auxiliary numbers of the 1st to 5th active Panzer Divisions. Nos. 90 and 104 seem to be exceptions to this numbering system.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzergranadier-Ausbildungs-Regiment (Pz.Gr.Ausb.Rgt.)—armored infantry training regiment.

Reserve-Panzergranadier-Regiment (Res.Pz.Gr.Rgt.)—reserve armored infantry regiment.

Panzergranadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (Pz.Gr.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.)—combined armored infantry replacement and training regiment.

(2) *Grenadier-Ersatz-Regiment (mot) (Gr.Ers.Rgt.(mot))*—motorized infantry replacement regiment.—Consists of a staff which controls two or more motorized infantry replacement battalions and four replacement companies for the regimental specialist subunits, namely, one each for the infantry howitzer companies, the antitank companies, the signal subunits, and the engineer platoons of motorized infantry regiments.

There is one motorized infantry replacement regiment bearing the number of each of the motorized divisions which had been created up to the end of 1942.


Designations of corresponding training units:

Grenadier-Ausbildungs-Regiment (mot) (Gr.Ausb.Rgt.(mot))—motorized infantry training regiment.

Reserve-Grenadier-Regiment (mot) (Res.Gr.Rgt.(mot))—motorized reserve infantry regiment.

Grenadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (mot) (Gr.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.(mot))—combined motorized infantry replacement and training regiment.

The smaller replacement and training units controlled by the motorized infantry replacement or training regiment have the same character and functions as the corresponding nonmotorized infantry units described in paragraph 8 c and are therefore not described here. In each case except that of the antitank units their designation is followed by *(mot)*.



(3) *Panzergrenadier-Ersatz-Bataillon (Pz.Gr.Ers.Btl.)* — armored infantry replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the armored infantry regiments, normally the one whose number it carries and the second armored infantry regiment of the same Panzer division.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzergrenadier-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pz.Gr.Ausb.Btl.)—armored infantry training battalion.

Reserve Panzergrenadier-Bataillon (Res.Pz.Gr.Btl.)—reserve armored infantry battalion.

Panzergrenadier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pz.Gr.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)—combined armored infantry replacement and training battalion.

(4) *Panzer-Ersatz-Abteilung (Pz.Ers.Abt.)*—tank replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the tank regiments of the Panzer divisions and the tank battalions of the motorized divisions as well as for GHQ tank units. With few exceptions tank replacement battalions bear the numbers of the tank regiments which they serve.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzer-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Ausb.Abt.)—tank training battalion.

Reserve-Panzer-Abteilung (Res.Pz.Abt.)—reserve tank battalion.

Panzer-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—combined tank replacement and training battalion.

Tank replacement and training battalion 100 (Wkr. XII) is believed to be the replacement and training unit for all flame-thrower tank battalions of the 100 series.

Tank replacement and training battalion 500 (Wkr. VI) is believed to be the replacement and training unit for all "Tiger" tank battalions of the 500 series.

(5) *Panzerjäger-Ersatz-Abteilung (Pz.Jäg.Ers.Abt.)*—antitank replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the divisional antitank battalions, the antitank companies of mobile battalions, the antitank platoons in the heavy weapons units of reconnaissance and armored reconnaissance battalions, and GHQ antitank units. In almost all cases it bears the number of the antitank

battalion of an active division, to which it is affiliated; Nos. 17 and 18 bear the numbers of their respective Wehrkreise.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzerjäger-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Jäg.Ausb.Abt.)—antitank training battalion.

Reserve-Panzerjäger-Abteilung (Res.Pz.Jäg.Abt.)—reserve antitank battalion.


Panzerjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—combined antitank replacement and training battalion.

(6) *Panzer-Aufklärungs-Ersatz-Abteilung* (Pz.Aufkl.Ers.Abt.) — armored reconnaissance replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the armored reconnaissance battalions in Panzer and motorized divisions, with the exception of the antitank, howitzer, and engineer platoons of the heavy weapons companies, which are affiliated with the most conveniently located divisional antitank and engineer replacement battalions and regimental howitzer replacement company, respectively.

Armored reconnaissance replacement battalions have been identified in the series 1 to 55. The reconnaissance units in Panzer and motorized divisions were reorganized in the latter part of 1942 and were renamed and renumbered in April 1943. The reorganization involved the merging of the old motorcycle battalion with the old reconnaissance battalion, taking the number of the latter and dropping that of the former. The subsequent renumbering order provided that an armored reconnaissance battalion in a Panzer division would take the number of the division and in a motorized division would receive a number 100 greater than that of the division. The replacement units, on the other hand, were apparently renamed but not renumbered under the April order. Hence some of them bear the numbers of the old field reconnaissance battalions, and some apparently have those of the old motorcycle battalions. It is possible that they have since been renumbered to correspond more closely to the new numbering of the field units.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzer-Aufklärungs-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Aufkl.Ausb.Abt.) — armored reconnaissance training battalion.



Reserve-Panzer-Aufklärungs-Abteilung (Res.Pz.Aufkl.Abt.)—reserve armored reconnaissance battalion.

Panzer-Aufklärungs-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Pz.Aufkl.Ers.u. Ausb.Abt.)—combined armored reconnaissance replacement and training battalion.

(7) *Geschütz-Ersatz-Kompanie (mot) (Gesch.Ers.Kp.(mot))*—motorized howitzer replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the howitzer platoons in the 4th and 8th (heavy-weapons) companies and the heavy infantry howitzer company of the armored infantry regiment and the howitzer platoon in the heavy-weapons company of the Panzer reconnaissance battalion. It is controlled by an armored infantry replacement regiment, whose number it bears, and serves units of the division to which that regiment was originally affiliated and often of one or two additional Panzer divisions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Geschütz-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (mot) (Gesch.Ausb.Kp.(mot))—motorized howitzer training company.

Reserve-Geschütz-Kompanie (mot) (Res.Gesch.Kp.(mot))—reserve motorized howitzer company.

Geschütz-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (mot) (Gesch.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.(mot))—combined motorized howitzer replacement and training company

(8) *Panzerjäger-Ersatz-Kompanie (Pz.Jäg.Ers.Kp.)*—antitank replacement company.—Responsible replacement unit for the anti-tank platoon in the regimental headquarters company, the headquarters of the mechanized infantry company, and the antitank platoons in the 4th and 8th (heavy weapons) companies of the armored infantry regiment. Its subordination, numbering, and affiliation are like those of the motorized howitzer replacement company (subparagraph (7), above).

Designations of corresponding training units:

Panzerjäger-Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Pz.Jäg.Ausb.Kp.)—antitank training company.

Reserve-Panzerjäger-Kompanie (Res.Pz.Jäg.Kp.)—reserve antitank company.

Panzerjäger-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie (Pz.Jäg.Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.)—combined antitank replacement and training company.

(9) *Nachrichten-Ersatz-Kompanie für Panzergrenadiere* (*Nachr. Ers.Kp.f.Pz.Gr.*)—signal training company for armored infantry.—Responsible replacement unit for the signal platoon in the headquarters company and the signal section in battalion headquarters of the armored infantry regiment. Its subordination, numbering, and affiliation are like those of the motorized howitzer replacement company (subparagraph (7), above).

Designations of corresponding training units:

Nachrichten-Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Panzergrenadiere (*Nachr.Ausb.Kp.f. Pz.Gr.*)—signal training company for armored infantry.

Nachrichten-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Panzergrenadiere (*Nachr. Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.f.Pz.Gr.*)—combined signal replacement and training company for armored infantry.

(10) *Ersatz-Kompanie für Pionierzüge (mot)* (*Ers.Kp.f.Pi.Züge (mot)*)—replacement company for motorized engineer platoons.—Responsible replacement unit for the engineer platoons in the 4th and 8th (heavy weapons) companies of the armored infantry regiment. Its subordination, numbering, and affiliation are like those of the motorized howitzer replacement company (sub-paragraph (7), above).

Designations of corresponding training units:

Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Pionierzüge (mot) (*Ausb.Kp.f.Pi.Züge(mot)*)—training company for motorized engineer platoons.


Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Pionierzüge (mot) (*Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.f. Pi.Züge(mot)*)—combined replacement and training company for motorized engineer platoons.

(11) *Fliegerabwehr-Ersatz-Kompanie für Panzereinheiten* (*Fla-Ers.Kp.f.Pz.Einh.*) — anti-aircraft-machine-gun replacement company for Panzer units.—Presumably the responsible replacement unit for any anti-aircraft-machine-gun units designed to operate with Panzer divisions. None have been identified.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Fliegerabwehr-Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Panzereinheiten (*Fla-Ausb.Kp.f.Pz. Einh.*)—anti-aircraft-machine-gun training company for Panzer units.

Fliegerabwehr-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Kompanie für Panzereinheiten (*Fla-Ers.u.Ausb.Kp.f.Pz.Einh.*)—combined anti-aircraft-machine-gun replacement and training company for Panzer units.



d. *Special unit*.—*Eisenbahnpanzerzug-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*Eisenb. Pz.Zg.Ers.Abt.*)—replacement battalion for armored trains.—When last identified this unit was located at Rembertow near Warschau (Wkr. G.G.). It furnishes replacements for the armored trains, which are GHQ units.

e. *Schools*.—(1) Special service schools (*Waffenschulen*).—(a) *Panzertruppen-Schule I* (School for Panzer Troops I).—Located in the Bergen training area, District of Celle (Wkr. XI). Before April 1943, this school was known as *Schule für Schnelle Truppen Wünsdorf* and was located at Wünsdorf, District of Teltow (Wkr. III). It conducts tactical and special technical courses for tank and anti-tank troops and also the tank-gunnery courses at the Putlos training area, District of Oldenburg, Holstein (Wkr. X).

The *Panzer-Lehr-Regiment* (Panzer Demonstration Regiment) is stationed in the Bergen training area at Camp Fallingbostel and is attached to the School for Panzer Troops I. It consists of I and II (tank) and III (antitank) battalions.

(b) *Panzertruppen-Schule II* (School for Panzer Troops II).—Located at Krampnitz (Wkr. III). Before April 1943 this school was known as *Schule für Schnelle Truppen Krampnitz*. It conducts courses for armored infantry and armored reconnaissance troops.


Panzergrenadier-Lehr-Regiment 901 (Armored Infantry Demonstration Regiment 901) is attached to the School for Panzer Troops II at Krampnitz. It includes the *Panzeraufklärungs-Lehr-Abteilung* (Panzer Reconnaissance Demonstration Battalion), whose personnel wear the letters *℔* on their shoulder straps.

(2) *Schools for officer training*.—The Panzer arm has no special schools for officer training. The following regular courses for officer candidates are held:

(a) *Fahnenjunker-Lehrgang I* at Wünsdorf (Wkr. III), probably now at the School for Panzer Troops I in the Bergen training area, District of Celle (Wkr. XI).

(b) *Fahnenjunker-Lehrgang II* at Zossen (Wkr. III).

(c) *Fahnenjunker-Lehrgang III* at Krampnitz (Wkr. III) at the School for Panzer Troops II.



(3) *Schools for NCO training.*—The following schools of this type are known to exist:

(a) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule der Panzertruppen (Panzerschützen)* (Army Panzer Troop NCO School for Tank Crews) at Eisenach (Wkr. IX).

(b) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule der Panzertruppen (Panzergranadiere)* (Army Panzer Troop NCO School for Armored Infantry) at Eisenach (Wkr. IX).


(c) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule der Panzertruppen (Panzeraufklärer)* (Army Panzer Troop NCO School for Armored Reconnaissance) at Sternberg (Wkr. VIII).

(d) *Feld-Unteroffizier-Schule der Panzertruppen* (Field Panzer Troop NCO School) at the Rembertow training area near Warschau (Wkr. G.G.).—The purpose of this school is the training and education of active noncommissioned officers for the “conservation of the high standards of training of the noncommissioned officer corps.” Trainees have to be in excellent physical condition for the strenuous combat training of this school. The school also conducts courses for the retraining of noncommissioned officers of the artillery for duty with the armored infantry.

(4) *Schools for special training.*—(a) *Schule für Heeresmotorisierung* (School for Army Motorization) at Wünsdorf, District of Teltow (Wkr. III).—This school, though belonging to the Panzer arm, conducts courses for technical motor-vehicle officials (*Beamte des technischen Dienstes im Kraftfahrwesen*) and motor-vehicle maintenance sergeants (*Schirrmeister (K)*) from units of all arms. Such courses were recently located at Kulm (Wkr. XX). Members of the school staff wear the letters *MC* on their shoulder straps.

(b) *Panzerschulen* (Tank Schools).—Have been reported at Paderborn (Wkr. VI), Heerweiler über Bingen (Wkr. XII), and Wischau near Brünn (Wkr. B.u.M.).

(c) *Panzerfahrschulen* (Tank Driver Schools).—Have been reported at Gelnhausen (Wkr. IX), St. Pölten (Wkr. XVII), and Posen (Wkr. XXI).



10. Artillery (*Artillerie*)

a. General description of the arm.—The artillery comprises all Army artillery units (which do not include antitank units belonging to the Panzer arm or infantry antitank and howitzer companies), together with their replacement and training units. It includes the *Heeres-Flakartillerie* (Army antiaircraft artillery) but not the *Fla* (antiaircraft-machine-gun) units, which belong to the infantry.


The development of the artillery arm is supervised by the Inspectorate of Artillery in the General Army Office (*Inspektion der Artillerie—AHA/In 4*), headed by the Inspector of Artillery. Subordinate to him is the Inspector of Army Antiaircraft Artillery (*Inspekteur der Heeres-Flakartillerie*).

The distinguishing color of the artillery is bright red.

b. Nomenclature.—German artillery is classified, according to caliber, as *leichte* (light), comprising guns up to 99 mm and howitzers up to 129 mm (abbreviated *le.*); *schwere* (literally, heavy, but properly translated medium), comprising guns from 100 to 209 mm, howitzers from 130 to 209 mm, and special howitzers (*Mörser*) from 210 to 249 mm (abbreviated *s.*); and *schwerste* (literally, heaviest, but properly translated heavy), comprising guns and howitzers over 209 mm and *Mörser* over 249 mm (abbreviated *sw.*). Extremely heavy guns are described as *überschwere* (superheavy).

According to their means of propulsion artillery units are classified as *bespannte* (horse-drawn), *motorisierte* or (*mot*) (motorized, for guns drawn by trucks or tractors), and *auf Selbstfahrlafette* or (*Sfl*), newer designation *selbstfahrend* or (*Sf*), (self-propelled).

Artillery regiments of infantry divisions usually have three light battalions and one medium battalion, artillery regiments of light divisions two light and one medium battalion. Artillery regiments of the mountain divisions carry the prefix *Gebirgs-* (mountain) and usually have three battalions of mountain pack howitzers and one light battalion. Artillery regiments of Panzer divisions carry the prefix *Panzer-* and usually contain two light battalions, one medium battalion, and one antiaircraft battalion. Artillery regiments of motorized divisions are designated (*mot*) (motorized) and are organized similarly to those of the Panzer divisions.




Heavy (*schwerste*) artillery will usually be found only in GHQ units. According to their tactical and local employment the following special classes of GHQ artillery units are distinguished: *Eisenbahn-Artillerie* (railway artillery), *Heeres-Küstenartillerie* (Army coast artillery), *Heeres-Flakartillerie* (Army antiaircraft artillery), *Sturmgeschütz-Einheiten* (assault gun units), *Beobachtungs-Einheiten* (observation units).

Artillery replacement units correspond in their nomenclature to the field units which they serve, with the exception that both Panzer and motorized artillery regiments (actually having the same table of organization) are served by motorized artillery replacement battalions.

The types of artillery replacement units whose designations are prefixed by *Gebirgs-* and *Panzer-* or are followed by the abbreviation (*mot*) are not listed separately below, since their character, functions, and affiliations are in each case parallel to those of the ordinary artillery replacement units.

c. Numbering system.—All artillery units with the exception of the Army antiaircraft artillery, artillery observation units, and artillery commanders and staffs carry numbers allotted from a single series running from 1 to 999. This series includes both the divisional artillery regiments, containing only a relatively small part of the artillery, and the GHQ units. Within the series, the divisional artillery regiments usually carry the number of the division or a number 100 greater than that of the division. At the time of mobilization the light, three-battalion artillery regiments of the active infantry divisions in the series 1 to 46 received their fourth (medium) battalions from the peacetime medium regiments. Artillery Regiments 1 to 36 received the first battalions of medium Artillery Regiments 37 to 72 (in consecutive order); Artillery Regiments 96 of the 44th, 98 of the 45th, and 114 of the 46th Infantry Divisions received the first battalions of medium Artillery Regiments 97, 99, and 115, respectively. All these medium battalions still carry their original numbers and are affiliated with medium replacement battalions bearing the same numbers.



Most of the irregularities which are now found in the numbering of divisional artillery units are explained either by the fact that existing units were allotted to divisions without changing their numbers, or by the fact that the number of a newly created division was already taken by an existing artillery unit so that the new divisional unit had to take a free number.

d. Regular units.—(1) *Artillerie-Ersatz-Regiment (Art.Ers.Rgt.)*—artillery replacement regiment.—Consists of a staff which controls from three to five light and medium artillery replacement battalions. Each Wehrkreis usually has two or three artillery replacement regiments, normally (except in Austria) bearing the numbers of active infantry divisions. They control the responsible replacement units for the artillery regiments of divisions mobilized in the Wehrkreis and for GHQ units.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Artillerie-Ausbildungs-Regiment (Art.Ausb.Rgt.)—artillery training regiment.


Reserve-Artillerie-Regiment (Res.Art.Rgt.)—reserve artillery regiment.

Artillerie-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Regiment (Art.Ers.u.Ausb.Rgt.)—combined artillery replacement and training regiment.

(2) *Artillerie-Ersatz-Abteilung (Art.Ers.Abt.)*—artillery replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit, depending on its special classification, for the light or medium battalions of the field regiment carrying the same number and one or more additional field regiments. The light and medium replacement battalions combined under the same regimental staff are able to take care of all replacements needed by their affiliated field units.

Some artillery replacement battalions are really double or even triple battalions, and their numbers are preceded by Roman numerals I, II, and III.

Besides artillery regiments, the artillery replacement battalions also serve GHQ artillery battalions and batteries and Army coast-artillery battalions and batteries. In 1941 Army coast-artillery units as well as assault-gun units were formed by converting complete batteries from replacement battalions.



Designations of corresponding training units:

Artillerie-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Art.Ausb.Abt.)—artillery training battalion.

Reserve-Artillerie-Abteilung (Res.Art.Abt.)—reserve artillery battalion.

Artillerie-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Art.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.) — combined artillery replacement and training battalion.

(3) *Heeres-Flakartillerie-Ersatz-Abteilung (H.Flakart.Ers.Abt.)*—Army antiaircraft-artillery replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the Army antiaircraft-artillery battalions of the same number and one or more additional antiaircraft-artillery battalions. These units have also been identified as replacement units for the antiaircraft battalions of Panzer artillery regiments in cases where these had been formed by conversion of entire GHQ antiaircraft-artillery battalions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Heeres-Flakartillerie-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (H.Flakart.Ausb.Abt.) — Army antiaircraft-artillery training battalion.

Heeres-Flakartillerie-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (H.Flakart.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—combined Army antiaircraft-artillery replacement and training battalion.

(4) *Beobachtungs-Ersatz-Abteilung (Beob.Ers.Abt.)* — observation replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the observation battalions as well as for the meteorological platoons and meteorological sections. These units also serve as replacement units for the staffs of the *Artillerie-Kommandeure* (artillery commanders). They bear the numbers of active infantry divisions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Beobachtungs-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Beob.Ausb.Abt.)—observation training battalion.

Beobachtungs-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Beob.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—combined observation replacement and training battalion.

e. *Special units.*—(1) *Schwere Artillerie-Ersatz-Abteilung (mot) 100 (schw.Art.Ers.Abt.(mot) 100)*—Motorized Heavy Artillery Replacement Battalion 100.—Located at Rügenwalde (Wkr. II). This battalion is the responsible replacement unit for all railway artillery (*Eisenbahn-Artillerie*).

The 3. (*Vermessungs- und Einschiess-*) *Batterie (3.(V.u.E.)/schw. Art.Ers.Abt.(mot)100)*—3d (Survey and Ranging) Battery—of this

battalion is the responsible replacement unit for all survey and ranging platoons.

The *Ersatztrupp für Velozitäts-Messtrupps* (Replacement Section for Velocity-Measurement Sections), which is attached to this battalion, is the responsible replacement unit for all velocity-measurement sections.

(2) *Artillerie-Lehrregiment (mot) 3 (A.L.R.(mot)3)*—Motorized Artillery Demonstration Regiment 3.—Located at the Gross-Born training area (Wkr. II). The 1st Battalion of this regiment is the responsible replacement unit for sound-ranging engineers (*Truppeningenieure der Fachrichtung Schallmesswesen*) employed with the observation units.

The 6th Battery of this regiment is the responsible replacement unit for the meteorological personnel of all reinforced meteorological platoons (*Verstärkte Wetterzüge*).

(3) *Artillerie-Lehrregiment (mot) 4 (A.L.R.(mot)4)*—Motorized Artillery Demonstration Regiment 4.—Located at the Gross-Born training area (Wkr. II).

The *III. (Vermessungs- und Karten-Ersatz-) Abteilung*—IIId (Survey and Mapping Replacement) Battalion—of this regiment is the responsible replacement unit for all the following field units: *Karten- und Vermessungs-Abteilungen (Kart.u.Verm.Abt.)*—mapping and survey battalions; *Felddruckerei-Abteilungen (Felldr.Abt.)*—field printing battalions; *Leichte Karten-Druckerei-Abteilungen (le.Kart.Druck.Abt.)*—light map-printing battalions; *Karten-Batterien (Kart.Bttr.)*—mapping batteries; *Vermessungs-Batterien (Verm.Bttr.)*—survey batteries; *Armee-, Korps- und Divisions-Karten-Stellen (A., Kps., Div.Kart.St.)*—army, corps, and division map-reproduction centers; *Magnetische Messbatterien (Magn.Messbttr.)*—magnetic survey batteries; *Karten-Lager (Kart.Lag.)*—map depots; *Astronomische Messtrupps (Astro-Messtr.)*—astronomical survey sections; *Kriegs-Karten-Vermessungs-Ämter (Kr.Kart.Verm.Ämter)*—war mapping and survey offices; *Militärgeographen-Gruppen (Mil. Geo.-Gruppen)*—military geographic groups; *Heeres-Messgerät-Instandsetzungs-Staffeln (Heer.Messger.Inst.Staff.)*—Army surveying-instruments maintenance section.

(4) *Sturmgeschütz-Ersatz-Abteilung (Stu.Gesch.Ers.Abt.)*—assault-gun replacement battalion.—Assault Gun Replacement Battalions 200 at Schweinfurt (Wkr. XIII), 300 at Neisse (Wkr. VIII), and 400 at Deba (Wkr. G.G.) have been identified. They are the responsible replacement units for all assault-gun units.


(5) *Heeresflieger-Stammabteilung (H.Fl.St.Abt.)*—Army Flyers Replacement Battalion.—Located at Reichenberg (Wkr. IV). This battalion is the responsible replacement unit for observers and artillery aviators, including both officers and enlisted men. These personnel receive their training in reconnaissance pilot schools of the Air Force. They are not necessarily part of the artillery, but wear the uniform and distinguishing color of their original arm.

This unit is subordinated to the Inspector of Training and Education.

f. Schools.—(1) *Special service schools (Waffenschulen)*.—(a) *Artillerie-Schule I* (Artillery School I).—Located in Berlin (Wkr. III). This school was newly established in July 1941 and began to offer instruction in January 1942.

(b) *Artillerie-Schule II* (Artillery School II).—Located at the Gross-Born area (Wkr. II). This school was originally the only *Waffenschule* of the artillery and was known as *Artillerie-Schule Jüterbog* until January 1942, when it was renamed *Artillerie-Schule II*. In the middle of 1943 it was moved from Jüterbog (Wkr. III) to Gross-Born (Wkr. II). It has Instruction Staffs (*Lehrstäbe*) A, B, C, and T and an Instruction Staff for Officer Courses (*Lehrstab für Offizierslehrgänge*).

Artillerielehrregimenter (Artillery Demonstration Regiments) 1, 2, 3, and 4, of which the last three are motorized, are stationed at Gross-Born and attached to Artillery School II as demonstration units. Motorized Artillery Demonstration Regiment 2 is connected with a staff for the formation of new self-propelled artillery units (*Neuaufstellung von Artillerie (Sf) Einheiten*). Motorized Artillery Demonstration Regiment 3 has two or more observation battalions, whose personnel wear the letters *BR* on their shoulder straps; it is connected with Instruction Staff B. Motorized Artillery Demonstration Regiment 4 has one or more survey and mapping



battalions, whose personnel wear the letters *33* on their shoulder straps; it is connected with Instruction Staff C. The latter two regiments also serve as responsible replacement units for certain specialized field units (see subparagraph *e*, above).

(*c*) *Artillerie-Schule III* (Artillery School III).—Originally known as *Artillerie-Schule Thorn* and located at Thorn (Wkr. XX), this school was transferred to the Suippes training area near Châlons-sur-Marne, France, in March 1943. In April 1943 it was renamed as an officer training school (see subparagraph (2), below).

(*d*) *Gebirgsartillerie-Schiess-Schule Dachstein* (Mountain Artillery Gunnery School Dachstein).—This school has its home station at the Dachstein training area at Obertraun, District of Gmunden (Wkr. XVII). In winter it normally moves to a new location; in the winter of 1941–42 it was at Wörgl (Wkr. XVIII) and in the following winter at Bad Hall (Wkr. XVIII).

(*e*) *Heeresküstenartillerie-Schule* (Army Coast Artillery School).—Normally stationed at Rügenwalde (Wkr. II), this school with its demonstration units has moved to the Channel coast.

(*f*) *Sturmgeschütz-Schule* (Assault Gun School).—Located at Burg near Magdeburg (Wkr. XI). It has an assault-gun instruction staff (*Sturmgeschützlehrstab*) at Burg and a staff for the formation of new assault-gun units (*Sturmgeschützaufstellungsstab*) at the Altengrabow training area (Wkr. XI).

The *Sturmgeschützlehrabteilung* (Assault Gun Demonstration Battalion) at Burg near Magdeburg (Wkr. XI) is attached to this school.

(2) *School for officer training*.—The *Schule für Fahnenjunker der Artillerie* (School for Artillery Officer Candidates) is at the Suippes training area near Châlons-sur-Marne, France. This school was known as *Artillerie-Schule III* until March 1943 (see subpar. (1) (*c*), above).

(3) *Schools for NCO training*.—The following schools of this type are known to exist:

(*a*) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule für Artillerie* — Army Artillery NCO School at Amberg (Wkr. XIII).



(b) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule für Artillerie* — Army Artillery NCO School at Thorn (Wkr. XX).

(4) *Schools for special training.*—*Artillerieschulen* (Artillery Schools), probably conducting special courses of various kinds, have been reported at the following locations: Barth in Pommern (Wkr. II) for rapid firing; Oppeln (Wkr. VIII); Beneschau near Prag (Wkr. B.u.M.); Béziers (France).

11. Chemical Warfare Troops (*Nebeltruppen*)

a. *General description of the arm.*—The chemical-warfare troops consist mainly of projector units, originally used for smoke projection but lately also for the launching of high-explosive projectiles. The arm also includes decontamination and gas-projection units. The development of the chemical-warfare troops is supervised by the Inspectorate of the Chemical Warfare Troops in the General Army Office (*Inspektion der Nebeltruppen*—AHA/In 9).

The distinguishing color of these troops is wine red.

b. *Nomenclature.*—Units of the chemical-warfare service have at various times in recent years been designated *Nebel-* (smoke), *Nebelwerfer-* (smoke projector), and *Werfer-* (projector) units. The last is at present in use. Regardless of nomenclature they are designed to use smoke, high-explosive, or gas projectiles.

Werfer- units should not be confused with *Granatwerfer-* (ordinary mortar) units.

c. *Regular units.*—*Werfer-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*Werf.Ers.Abt.*)—projector replacement battalion.—Similar in organization to the artillery replacement battalion. It is the responsible replacement unit for projector regiments, projector battalions, and decontamination battalions.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Werfer-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Werf.Ausb.Abt.*)—projector training battalion.

Werfer-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Werf.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.*) — combined projector replacement and training battalion.

d. *Special units.*—(1) *Gebirgswerfer-Lehr-, -Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Batterie* (Mountain Projector Demonstration, Replacement,

and Training Battery).—Located at Wocheiner-Vellach (Wkr. XVIII). Serves as the responsible replacement unit for all mountain projector units.

(2) *Heeres-Gasschutz-Schule 1* (Army Gas Protection School 1).—Located at Celle (Wkr. XI). This school is the responsible replacement unit for all chemical-warfare specialists in the entire Army. These are either technical officials of the chemical-warfare branch (*Beamte des technischen Dienstes des Nebel- und Gasschutzwesens*), or sergeants or corporals trained as specialists for chemical-warfare equipment (*Schirrmeister (Ch)* or *Schirrunteroffiziere (Ch)*).

e. Schools.—(1) *Special service school* (Waffenschule).—*Nebeltruppen-Schule* (School for Chemical Warfare Troops).—Located at Celle (Wkr. XI).

The *Werfer-Lehr-Regiment* (Chemical Warfare Demonstration Regiment) is stationed at Celle and is attached to this school.


(2) *Schools for special training.*—(a) *Heeres-Gasschutz-Schule 1* (Army Gas Protection School 1).—Located at Celle (Wkr. XI). This school trains officers and noncommissioned officers of all arms to serve as gas-protection specialists or as instructors in gas protection in their own units. It also conducts regular courses lasting 4 months for *Schirrmeister (Ch)* (specialists for chemical warfare equipment). For its function as a replacement unit see subparagraph *d*, above.

(b) *Heeres-Gasschutz-Schule 2* (Army Gas Protection School 2).—Located at Bromberg (Wkr. XX). This school has the same status and purpose as Army Gas Protection School 1, except that it apparently does not conduct courses for *Schirrmeister (Ch)*.

(c) *Gasschutzschulen* (Gas Protection Schools) have been reported at the following locations: Cuxhaven (Wkr. X); Thorn (Wkr. XX); Lille (France).

12. Engineers (*Pioniere*)

a. General description of the arm.—This arm includes the regular combat engineers as well as fortress engineers (*Festungspioniere*). Since October 1943 it has also included the construction engineers (*Baupioniere*) who had previously formed the separate *Waffengat-*



tung of *Bautruppen* (construction troops). On the other hand, it is probable that the engineer arm does not include the railway engineers (*Eisenbahnpioniere*) or the technical troops (*Technische Truppen*). The two latter categories, however, are closely related to the engineers and are therefore treated with them here.


The development of the engineer arm is supervised by the Inspector of Engineers and Railway Engineers (*Inspekteur der Pioniere und Eisenbahnpioniere*) and the Inspector of Construction Engineers (*Inspekteur der Baupioniere*). The personnel matters, organization, training, and equipment of the technical troops, who consist of technical battalions and their replacement units, are taken care of by the *Abteilung Technische Truppen* (Department for Technical Troops), established in May 1941 under the Chief of the Replacement Army.

The distinguishing color of the engineers is black. The fortress engineers wear on their shoulder straps the letters *Sp* (for peacetime units) or *S* (for units formed on or after mobilization). The former distinguishing color of the construction engineers, light brown, may still be encountered.

The types of engineer replacement units whose designations are prefixed by *Gebirgs-* or *Panzer-* or are followed by the abbreviation (*mot*) are not listed separately below, since their character, functions, and affiliations are in each case parallel to those of the ordinary engineer replacement units.

b. Regular units.—(1) *Pionier-Ersatz-Bataillon (Pi.Ers.Btl.)*—engineer replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the divisional engineer battalion whose number it carries and for one or more additional divisional and GHQ engineer battalions.

The engineer replacement and training battalions normally carry the numbers of their corresponding field units, although there is no evidence that the replacement units of divisions which have been converted into Panzer divisions still feed the Panzer engineer battalions. Engineer replacement battalions have been identified in the series 1 to 40 and 54 to 89, corresponding to the engineer battalions of active infantry, Panzer, and mountain divisions, and in the series 152 to 269 corresponding to engineer battalions of divisions formed



in 1939. Engineer Replacement Battalions 46 and 68 carry numbers not of their affiliated field battalions (88 and 168) but of the field divisions to which these battalions belong; the field battalions 46 and 68 are active GHQ units and probably not connected with the replacement battalions bearing the same numbers. Engineer Replacement Battalions 43, 47, 123, 311, 334, and 900 likewise do not fit into the series described above, although in most cases they seem to feed the field battalions of the same number.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Pionier-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pi.Ausb.Btl.)—engineer training battalion.

Reserve-Pionier-Bataillon (Res.Pi.Btl.)—reserve engineer battalion.

Pionier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pi.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)—combined engineer replacement and training battalion.

(2) *Pionier-Brücken-Ersatz-Bataillon (Pi.Brücken-Ers.Btl.)* — bridge construction engineer battalion.—Since July 1941 this has been the responsible replacement unit for the *Pionier-Brücken-Bataillone* (bridge construction engineer battalions). Before that date the railway engineer replacement battalions provided the replacements for these units.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Pionier-Brücken-Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pi.Brücken-Ausb.Btl.) — bridge construction engineer training battalion.

Pionier-Brücken-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Pi.Brücken-Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)—bridge construction engineer combined replacement and training battalion.

Bridge Construction Engineer Combined Replacement and Training Battalion 5 at Lindau (Wkr. VII) specializes in training and replacement of personnel for landing craft.

(3) *Baupionier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon (Bau-Pi.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.)*—construction engineer replacement and training battalion.—These units, of which there is one in each peacetime Wehrkreis bearing the Wehrkreis number (and also Nos. 15 in Wkr. V and 28 in Wkr. VIII), are the responsible replacement units for the *Baupionierbataillone* (construction engineer battalions). They also handle the administration of civilian construction workers and specialists employed with their affiliated field units.

(4) *Eisenbahnpionier-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Bataillon* (*Eisenb. Pi.Ers.u.Ausb.Btl.*)—railway engineer combined replacement and training battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for railway specialists for railway engineer field units. Identified in an independent series from 1 to 8.

Signal personnel replacements for the railway telephone companies (*Eisenbahn-Fernsprech-Kompanien*) are furnished by signal replacement battalions (see par. 13 c).

c. *Special units*.—(1) *Festungspionier-Schule* (Fortress Engineer School).—Located at Berlin-Karlshorst (Wkr. III). This is the replacement unit for fortress engineer authorities (*Festungspionier-Dienststellen*), consisting mainly of Inspectors of Fortifications (*Inspekteure der Landesbefestigungen*), fortress engineer commanders (*Festungspionier-Kommandeure*), and fortress engineer staffs (*Festungspionier-Stäbe*), and also for fortress maintenance personnel (*Festungs-Werkpersonal*).


The replacement unit for auxiliary personnel of fortress engineer authorities is determined by order of the Command of the Wehrkreis in which the fortress authority is located.

Fortress engineer personnel employed with a superior engineer commander (*Höherer Pionierführer*) or a special engineer regimental staff (*Pionier-Regimentsstab z.b.V.*) have the same replacement unit as their field unit, usually a construction engineer replacement and training battalion.

The Fortress Engineer School is also the replacement unit for all technical officials of the fortress engineer branch (*Wehrmachtbeamte des technischen Dienstes im Festungspionierwesen* (FP)) and fortress maintenance specialists (*Wallmeister*).

Officers and specialists of the infantry or artillery who are employed with fortress engineer commands retain their former artillery or infantry replacement unit.

(2) *Lehrstab C der Pionierschule für schweren Brückenbau* (Instruction Staff C of the Engineer School for Heavy Bridge Construction).—Located at Strassburg (Wkr. V). This is the replacement unit for all technical officials of the engineer branch (*Wehrmachtbeamte des technischen Dienstes im Pionierwesen* (P)).



(3) *Wehrgeologen-Lehr- und -Gerätestelle* (Demonstration and Instrument Station for Military Geologists).—This station, located at Sternberg (Wkr. III), is the replacement unit for military geologists in all units and for the personnel of military geology stations.

(4) *Technisches Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-Bataillon* (Technical Replacement and Training Battalion).—This battalion, located at Pirna (Wkr. IV), is the responsible replacement unit for all technical battalions (*Technische Bataillone*). It is also the replacement unit for officials of the technical engineer branch (*Wehrmachtbeamte des technischen Dienstes im Pionierwesen* (PT)).

(5) *Technische Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-Abteilung* (Technical Replacement and Training Battalion).—Located at Niederlahnstein (Wkr. XII). This battalion is the responsible replacement unit for all technical battalions (*Technische Abteilungen*).


(6) *Ersatz- und Ausbildungs-Kompanie für technische Gase* (Replacement and Training Company for Technical Gases).—Located at Frankfurt/Main-Fechenheim (Wkr. IX). This company is the responsible replacement unit for all field units which produce technical gases with the exception of the hydrogen production sections attached to army group ordnance parks.

The units for the production of technical gases as well as the two types of technical battalions mentioned above under (4) and (5) and their replacement units belong to the technical troops (*technische Truppen*).

d. Schools. — (1) Special service schools (*Waffenschulen*).—
(a) *Pionier-Schule* (Engineer School).—Located at Dessau-Rosslau (Wkr. XI). Up to the end of 1942, this school was known as *Pionier-Schule II*.

Pionier-Lehr-Bataillone (Engineer Demonstration Battalions) 1 and 2 have been identified at Dessau-Rosslau, attached to the Engineer School. There is also a *Pionier-Lehr-Bataillon z.b.V.* at Offenbach/Main (Wkr. IX), which specializes in mining and similar activities.

(b) *Festungspionier-Schule* (Fortress Engineer School).—Located at Berlin-Karlshorst (Wkr. III). Up to the end of 1942, this school was known as *Pionier-Schule I*. It conducts courses lasting from 1



to 3 years for fortress engineer specialists. These specialists are either technical officials of the fortress engineer branch (*Beamte des technischen Dienstes im Festungspionierwesen (FP)*) or specialists in fortress maintenance (*Wallmeister*). Its personnel wear the letters *FP* on their shoulder straps.

(c) *Wallmeister-Schule* (Fortress Maintenance School).—Located at Sternberg (Wkr. III). The courses at this school are similar to the ones at the Fortress Engineer School, to which it is subordinated. Its personnel wear the letters *FP* on their shoulder straps.

(d) *Pionier-Schule für Schweren Brückenbau* (Engineer School for Heavy Bridge Construction).—Located at Speyer (Wkr. XII).


The *Pionier-Lehr-Bataillon für Schweren Brückenbau* (Engineer Demonstration Battalion for Heavy Bridge Construction), until March 1942 known as *Brückenbau-Ersatz-Bataillon 4*, is attached to this school.

(e) *Lehrstab C der Pionierschule für schweren Brückenbau* (Instruction Staff C of the Engineer School for Heavy Bridge Construction).—In September 1943, Instruction Staff C of the Engineer School was transferred from Dessau-Rosslau to Strassburg (Wkr. V.). In October it received its present name and affiliation. This instruction staff conducts courses for higher technical officials of the engineer branch (*Beamte des gehobenen technischen Dienstes (P)*) and supply sergeants for engineer equipment (*Schirrmeister (P)*).

(f) *Eisenbahn-pionier-Schule* (Railway Engineer School).—Located at Rehagen-Klausdorf (Wkr. III). Controls the cable railway courses (*Seilbahn-Lehrgänge*) at Mittersill (Wkr. XVIII).

Eisenbahn-pionier-Lehr-Kompanien (Railway engineer demonstration companies) are attached to this school.

(2) Schools for officer training.—(a) *Ingenieur-Offizier-Akademie* (Technical Officer Academy).—Former designation of an establishment at Vaihingen near Stuttgart (Wkr. V). The Academy directed the technical education in mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, construction engineering, chemistry, physics, and geodetic survey for prospective officers of the *Ingenieur-Offizierkorps* and for the research department of the Army Ordnance Office. Early in 1943 the *Ingenieur-Offizierkorps* was dissolved and its officers trans-



ferred to the motor-maintenance troops, motorized units, artillery, engineers, and signal troops. In July 1943 officer candidates of the motor maintenance troops started a 2- to 3-month special course at this school.

(b) *Fahnenjunker-Lehrgänge für Pioniere* (courses for engineer officer candidates).—These courses take care of the training of officer candidates for the engineers.

(3) Schools for NCO training.—(a) *Heeres-Unteroffizier-Schule für Pioniere* (Army Engineer NCO School).—Located at Neu-Breisach (Wkr. V). A second such school is believed to be at Hanau/Main (Wkr. IX).

13. Signal Troops (*Nachrichtentruppen*)

a. *General description of the arm.*—The signal arm consists of the organic army group and army signal regiments, the corps and divisional signal battalions and companies, and various GHQ signal units, together with their replacement units. The personnel of signal subunits in organic divisional units does not belong to the signal arm but to the arm of the unit in which it serves.

The development of the signal troops is supervised by the Signal Group in the General Army Office (*Amtsgruppe Nachrichtenwesen—AHA/Ag N*), formerly known as the Inspectorate of Signal Troops (*Inspektion der Nachrichtentruppen—AHA/In 7*). In each Wehrkreis, under the Deputy Commanding General, the Commander of Signal Troops is in direct command of the signal replacement battalions belonging to his Wehrkreis.

The distinguishing color of the signal troops is lemon yellow.

b. *Nomenclature.*—The signal replacement and training units serving the organic signal units of mountain divisions have the prefix *Gebirgs-* (mountain).

The only Panzer signal replacement battalions identified are in the 80 series; there is no evidence that the replacement battalions in the regular series which are affiliated with Panzer signal battalions in the field are designated as Panzer.

c. *Regular units.*—(1) *Nachrichten-Ersatz-Abteilung (Nachr.Ers. Abt.)*—signal replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit

for the signal battalion whose number it carries and for one or more additional organic or GHQ signal units, including replacements of nonspecialist personnel for the signal reconnaissance platoons (*Nachrichten-Aufklärungszüge*) of these units. Signal Replacement Battalions 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 13 and 20 also furnish replacements of signal personnel for the railway telephone companies (*Eisenbahn-Fernsprech-Kompanien*), otherwise taken care of by the railway engineer replacement battalions (see par. 12 b).

The replacement battalions carry the numbers of corresponding field units with the exception of 17 and 18, which derive their numbers from their respective Wehrkreise. Signal replacement and training battalions have been identified in the series 1 to 67 corresponding to the signal battalions of active divisions and of active corps, 81 and 82 corresponding to the signal battalions of active Panzer divisions, and 152 to 269 corresponding to the signal battalions of divisions formed on mobilization. Also identified is Signal Replacement Battalion 382.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Nachrichten-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Nachr.Ausb.Abt.*)—signal training battalion.


Reserve-Nachrichten-Abteilung (*Res.Nachr.Abt.*)—reserve signal battalion.

Nachrichten-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Nachr.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.*) — combined signal replacement and training battalion.

(2) *Dolmetscherzug* (interpreter platoon).—Each Wehrkreis has an interpreter platoon serving as the responsible replacement unit for all translators and interpreters from this Wehrkreis employed with units or authorities of the Field Army or Replacement Army. This does not include the signal interpreters (see subpar. d (2), below).

(3) *Hunde-Ersatz-Staffel* (dog replacement section)—Responsible replacement unit for all types of Army dogs and the personnel which looks after them. Attached to some of the signal replacement battalions.

d. *Special units*.—(1) *Nachrichten-Ersatz-Abteilung 50* (Signal Replacement Battalion 50).—Located at Flensburg (Wkr. X). This




unit was formed in June 1941 for the replacement of the following specialists: amplifier personnel (*Verstärkerpersonal*), cable soldering personnel (*Kabellöter*), teletype personnel (*Fernschreibpersonal*), teletype mechanics (*Fernschreibmechaniker*), signal communications mechanics (*Fernmeldemechaniker*).

(2) *Nachrichten-Dolmetscher-Ersatz-Abteilung* (signal interpreter replacement battalion).—Located at Meissen (Wkr. IV). This battalion, originally the IIId Battalion of the Signal Demonstration Regiment and renamed in May 1941, is the responsible replacement unit for all signal interpreters who are mainly employed in signal reconnaissance units for the interception of radio and wire messages.

(3) *Nachrichten-Aufklärungs-Ersatz-Abteilung* (signal reconnaissance replacement battalion).—Located at Frankfurt/Main (Wkr. IX). Since May 1941 this has been the responsible replacement unit for the specialist personnel of the signal reconnaissance (interception) units with the exception of signal interpreters. Non-specialist personnel is furnished by the signal replacement battalions. It contains one or more replacement companies for short-range and long-range interception (*Nachrichtenfernaufklärungs-Ersatz-Kompanie*; *Nachrichtennahaufklärungs-Ersatz-Kompanie*).

(4) *Einsatzgruppe für Fernmelde-Sonderpersonal* (*Eins.Gr.f.Fernm. Sonderpers.*)—pool of special signal communications personnel.—This pool is attached to Signal Replacement Battalion 3 at Potsdam (Wkr. III). It is the responsible replacement unit for certain types of specialists supplied to the Army by the German Reich Postal Service, the German Teledynamic Cable Company, and private signal instrument manufacturing firms. These personnel serve in telegraph construction detachments (*Telegrafentrupps*), cable testing detachments (*Kabelmesstrupps*), cable repair detachments (*Kabelinstandsetzungstrupps*), radio detachments (*Funkeinsatzstrupps*), radio reconnaissance detachments (*Funckerkundungstrupps*), mobile radio transmission units (*fahrbare Rundfunksender*). Wherever they serve they remain under the control of the *Einsatzgruppe*.

e. *Schools*.—(1) Special service schools (*Waffenschulen*).—(a) *Heeres-Nachrichten-Schule I* (Army Signal School I).—Located at Halle (Wkr. IV).



The *Nachrichten-Lehr-Regiment* (Signal Demonstration Regiment) is attached to Army Signal School I at Halle.

(b) *Heeres-Nachrichten-Schule II* (Army Signal School II).—Located at Glatz (Wkr. VIII), previously at Leipzig (Wkr. IV). It conducts courses for technical officials of the signal branch (*Beamte des technischen Dienstes im Nachrichtenwesen*).

(2) *Schools for officer training*.—*Fahnenjunker-Lehrgänge für die Nachrichtentruppen* (courses for signal officer candidates) are known to exist and are probably held at the Army signal schools.

(3) *School for NCO training*.—*Heeres-Unteroffizierschule für die Nachrichtentruppen* (Army Signal Troop NCO School).—Believed to be located at Zerbst (Wkr. XI).

(4) *Schools for special training*.

(a) *Heeres-Schule für Hunde- und Briefftaubendienst* (Army School for Dog and Pigeon Service).—Located at Berlin-Spandau (Wkr. III), with a section for Army dogs at Sperenberg, District of Teltow (Wkr. III), and a section for Army carrier pigeons at Berlin-Spandau.


The personnel of the school wear, under the letter S, the letters *SB* on their shoulder straps.

(b) *Heeresschule für Nachrichtenhelferinnen* (Army School for Auxiliary Female Signal Personnel).—Located at Giessen (Wkr. IX).

14. Propaganda Troops (*Propagandatruppen*)

a. *General description of the arm*.—In January 1943 the propaganda troops, formerly belonging to the signal troops, were made into a separate arm. They consist mainly of news reporters, photographers, film cameramen, and radio commentators. Their main function is front-line reporting, but they also conduct propaganda addressed to the enemy as well as to German troops. They are under the command and supervision of the Chief of the Propaganda Troops in the Armed Forces High Command (*Chef der Propagandatruppen im OKW*).

The distinguishing color of the propaganda troops is light grey.



b. Units.—(1) *Propaganda-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung* (Combined Propaganda Replacement and Training Battalion).—Located in Berlin (Wkr. III). This battalion is the replacement and training unit for the personnel of the propaganda battalions and propaganda companies. It is believed to be of more than ordinary battalion size and status.

(2) *Propaganda-Einsatz-Abteilung* (Propaganda Operations Battalion).—This unit, also in Berlin, controls the allocation of trained propagandists to headquarters in the field.


c. Schools.—Officer training for the propaganda troops is conducted at Infantry Officer Candidate School III (*Schule III für Fahnenjunker der Infanterie*) at Potsdam (Wkr. III) (see subpar. 8e (2)).

15. Supply Troops (*Nachschubtruppen*)

a. General description of the arm.—The supply and motor-maintenance units of the German Army, originally combined under *Fahrtruppen* (transport troops), were divided into two separate arms in November 1942. The motor-maintenance units were grouped under the *Kraftfahrparktruppen* (motor-maintenance troops), and the transport and supply units were classified as *Nachschubtruppen* (supply troops). The supply troops consist of organic units under the commanders of the division rear services (namely, the divisional motor-transport battalions and the light columns and trains) and various types of GHQ units.

It is not unlikely that all or most units of this arm, including the replacement and training units, have been or will be renamed *Nachschub-* and *Nachschub-(mot)* instead of *Fahr-* and *Kraftfahr-*. The designations last reported are, however, used in the following discussion.

The replacement and training units belonging to the supply troops are not only called upon to serve as regular replacement units for the field units of this arm but have the additional function of furnishing trained drivers of horse-drawn vehicles as well as motor drivers for nonmotorized field units of the infantry, engineers, and medical troops, and drivers of nonspecialized vehicles for the



artillery and signal troops. Motorized field units, on the other hand, normally receive their driver replacements from their own replacement and training units. The nonmotorized field units submit their requests for driver personnel to their own replacement units, which forward the request to a replacement unit for supply troops specially designated for this purpose by the Wehrkreis headquarters. Upon assignment to the field unit, the drivers automatically become affiliated with its regular replacement unit.

The distinguishing color of the supply troops is light blue.

b. Numbering system.—It seems that originally each Wehrkreis had one replacement unit for drivers of horse-drawn transport and one for motor-transport drivers, each bearing the Wehrkreis number. Later on more replacement units were added, usually taking the numbers of active divisions or divisions formed in 1939 belonging to their respective Wehrkreise.

c. Units.—(1) *Fahr-Ersatz-Abteilung (Fahr-Ers.Abt.)* — supply troop replacement battalion (horse-drawn).—Responsible replacement unit for horse-drawn supply units and for driver personnel of infantry, engineer and medical units from their Wehrkreis.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Fahr-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Fahr-Ausb.Abt.)—supply troop training battalion (horse-drawn).


Fahr-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Fahr-Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.)—supply troop combined replacement and training battalion (horse drawn).

(2) *Kraftfahr-Ersatz-Abteilung (Kraftf.Ers.Abt.)*—motor transport supply troop replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for motor-drawn supply units and for motor-driver personnel of infantry, engineer, and medical units from their Wehrkreis. They also furnish drivers of ordinary vehicles for the artillery and signal troops, whereas these arms train their own drivers for specialized vehicles.

Designations of corresponding training units:

Kraftfahr-Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Kraftf.Ausb.Abt.)—Motor-transport supply troop training battalion.

Kraftfahr-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (Kraftf.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.) — Motor-transport supply troop combined replacement and training battalion.



Motor Transport Supply Troop Combined Replacement and Training Battalion 3 at Rathenow (Wkr. III) is the responsible replacement unit for the general personnel of all fuel and lubricant testing units (*Betriebsstoffuntersuchungstrupps*). For specialist personnel of these units see paragraph 8c (4).

(3) *Kraftwagen-Transport-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*Kw.Transp.Ers.Abt.*)—motor-transport replacement battalion.—Responsible replacement unit for the motor-transport regiments and battalions, which are GHQ units.

Designation of corresponding training unit:

Kraftwagen-Transport-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Kw.Transp.Ers.u. Ausb.Abt.*)—combined motor-transport replacement and training battalion.

d. Schools.—(1) *Special service schools* (*Waffenschulen*).—(a) *Heeres-Nachschubtruppen-Schule* (Army Supply Troop School).—Located at Hannover (Wkr. XI). Until July 1943 this school was called *Fahrtruppenschule*. Besides conducting courses for its arm it contains a Motor Driver Demonstration Company (*Kraftfahrlehrkompanie*) and a Demonstration Troop for Drivers of Horse-Drawn Vehicles (*Fahrlehrschwadron*).

(b) *Feldschule der Nachschubtruppen* (Field School for Supply Troops)—Located at Otwock near Warschau (Wkr. G.G.). This school conducts courses for officers, for officer candidates and platoon leaders, and for noncommissioned officers.

(2) *Schools for officer training*.—Courses for officer candidates of the supply troops are held at the *Waffenschulen* in Hannover and Otwock.

(3) *Schools for NCO training*.—Courses for noncommissioned officers of the supply troops are held at the *Feldschule* in Otwock.

(4) *Schools for special training*.—(a) *Heeres-Reit- und -Fahr-Schule* (Army Riding and Driving School).—Located at Krampnitz (Wkr. III). This school has a similar status to that of the *Waffenschulen* and is subordinated to the Chief of Training. It originally had three sections: riding school, driving school, and tournament and racing section. It conducts courses for the training of corporals

and sergeants trained as specialists for harness and similar equipment (*Schirrmeister (F)* and *Schirrunteroffiziere (F)*).

(b) *Wehrkreis-Reit- und -Fahr-Schulen* (Wehrkreis Riding and Driving Schools).—These were originally called *Wehrkreis-Remonte-Schulen*. There is usually one of them in each Wehrkreis, located as follows:

Wehrkreis I	Lyck
Wehrkreis II	Demmin
Wehrkreis III	Beeskow
Wehrkreis IV	Grossenhain; Oschatz
Wehrkreis V	Aalen
Wehrkreis VI	Warendorf
Wehrkreis VII	Dillingen
Wehrkreis VIII	Militsch
Wehrkreis IX	Babenhausen
Wehrkreis X	Soltau
Wehrkreis XI	Gardelegen
Wehrkreis XIII	Bamberg
Wehrkreis XVII	Schlosshof near Marchegg

(c) (*Heeres*)*kraftfahrerschulen* (Army Motor Driver Schools).—These have been identified at the following locations:

Wehrkreis I	Schröttersburg
Wehrkreis III	Berlin
Wehrkreis V	Vaihingen
Wehrkreis IX	Bad Hersfeld
Wehrkreis X	Glücksburg (Ostsee)
Wehrkreis XII	Heidelberg

16. Motor Maintenance Troops (*Kraftfahrparktruppe*)

a. *General description of the arm.*—In November 1942 the motor-maintenance services and installations were combined to form this new arm. Previous to that date they, together with the supply troops, had constituted the *Fahrtruppen* (transport troops). They consist of motor-maintenance units and motor-transport parks, all of which are GHQ units. The Superior Officer of the Motor Maintenance Troops (*Höherer Offizier der Kraftfahrparktruppe*) under the General of Motorization (*General der Motorisierung*) supervises the development of the motor-maintenance troops in the Replacement Army.

The distinguishing color of the motor-maintenance troops is pink, with the letter J on the shoulder straps.

The motor-maintenance replacement units are numbered according to their respective Wehrkreise.

b. Units.—*Kraftfahrpark-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*Kf.Park-Ers.Abt.*)—motor-maintenance replacement battalion.—Most or all of the Wehrkreise originally had one *Kraftfahrpark-Ersatz-Kompanie* (motor-maintenance replacement company) each, which has since grown into a battalion. Some replacement and training units of company size may still be found. The motor-maintenance replacement units are the responsible replacement units for the field units of the motor-maintenance troops.

Designation of corresponding training unit:

Kraftfahrpark-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*Kf.Park-Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.*)
—motor-maintenance combined replacement and training battalion.

c. School.—*Kraftfahrparktruppen-Schule* (School for Motor Maintenance Troops)—Located at Kornwestheim near Stuttgart (Wkr. V). Until April 1943 it was located at Düsseldorf (Wkr. VI). This is the special service school (*Waffenschule*) of this arm.


17. Medical Troops (*Sanitätstruppen*)

a. General description of the arm.—The medical troops consist of all divisional and GHQ medical units and their replacement units, including personnel-decontamination units. Medical personnel belonging to this arm will also be found with units of all other arms. Replacement and training units of all the other arms train approximately 5 percent of their recruits as auxiliary stretcher bearers (*Hilfskrankenträger*).

The training of medical personnel is supervised by the Army Medical Inspector (*Heeressanitätsinspekteur*).

The distinguishing color of the medical troops is dark blue.

The medical replacement and training battalions carry the numbers of their respective Wehrkreise. The medical replacement battalion of the Wehrkreis Generalgouvernement carries the name "Weichsel" instead of a number.



b. Units.—(1) *Sanitäts-Ersatz-Abteilung* (*San.Ers.Abt.*)—medical replacement battalion.—One in each of the pre-war Wehrkreise. Responsible replacement unit for all medical units from the respective Wehrkreis in which it is located, with the exception of the personnel-decontamination units. According to regulations 5 percent of the medical personnel are trained in horseback riding and 15 percent in motor driving in the supply troop replacement and training battalions.

Designation of corresponding training unit:

Sanitäts-Ersatz- und -Ausbildungs-Abteilung (*San.Ers.u.Ausb.Abt.*) — combined medical replacement and training battalion.

(2) *Truppen-Entgiftungs-Ersatz-Kompanie* (*Tr.Entg.Ers.Kp.*)—personnel-decontamination replacement company.—Located at Döberitz (Wkr. III). Since July 1941 this company has been the responsible replacement unit for all personnel-decontamination companies and installations.

c. Schools.—(1) *Special service schools* (*Waffenschulen*).—(a) *Heeres-Sanitäts-Schule* (Army Medical School).—Location and present existence doubtful.

The *Sanitäts-Lehr-Abteilung* (Medical Demonstration Battalion) is probably attached to the Army Medical School.

(b) *Gebirgs-Sanitäts-Schule* (Mountain Medical School).—Located at St. Johann (Wkr. XVIII).

(2) *School for officer training.*—The *Militärärztliche Akademie* (Army Medical Academy) was until recently in Berlin (Wkr. III) but may have been moved to Freiburg im Breisgau (Wkr. V). The Academy directs the medical education of active officers of the medical troops.

18. Veterinary Troops (*Veterinärtruppen*)

a. General description of the arm.—The veterinary troops consist of the veterinary companies of infantry, light, and mountain divisions and all types of veterinary GHQ units, including motorized horse transport columns, together with the veterinary replacement and training battalions. They also include veterinary personnel, especially horseshoeing personnel, serving with units of various other arms.

